WEIRD ADVENTURES ON OTHER WORLDS—THE UNIVERSE OF THE FUTURE

PLANET COMICS

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FICTION HOUSE MAGAZINES

FLINT BAKER
In a smashing planetary adventure—
"RENEGADE QUEEN OF MARS"

THE RED COMET

CAPT. NELSON COLE

DON GRANVILLE

GALE ALLEN OF THE SPACE PATROL

COSMO CORRIGAN

SPURT HAMMOND

SOMEDAY..I'M GONNA TAKE ONE OF THESE BIRDS UP...I'M GONNA CLIMB THOSE CLOUDS.. I'M GONNA ZOOM DOWN AND OPEN FIRE AND...SOME DAY I'M GONNA FLY

A FRECKLE-FACED, SNUB-NOSED KID—HIS FEET ON THE GROUND, BUT HIS HEART IN THE CLOUDS—THE SCREWBALL MECHANIC OF THE R. A. F.

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PLANET COMICS (No. 11, MARCH) WILL BE ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTAND JAN. 10th.

THE RED COMET

BY ARTHUR KING

RED COMET, THE MYSTERY MAN OF SPACE, IS INVITED TO WITNESS AN AMAZING EXPERIMENT.....WITH STARTLING RESULTS.....

GENTLEMEN, WE ARE ABOUT TO BRING TO LIFE THE BODY OF A MAN...

A MAN WHO DIED EARLY IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.. ALL WE KNOW ABOUT HIM IS HIS NAME...TONY SCARO.

BREATHLESSLY THE SCIENTISTS WAIT AND WATCH AS THE HUGE MACHINE BUZZES WITH ENERGY.

AT LAST THE SIGNAL IS GIVEN TO REVEAL THE "SPECIMEN."

HERE HE COMES!

SLOWLY, THE SWARTHY MAN FROM THE TWENTIETH CENTURY IS TAKEN FROM THE MACHINE...

WH'..WHAT GOES ON HERE?

HE GROANS, COMES TO AND YELLS.

HEY! HOW'D I GET HERE? BRING ME SOME CLOTHES..IS DIS A JOKE? IT AINT FUNNY!

WHO ARE ALL DESE GUYS? WHAT IS DIS? A LINE-UP? I WANTTA SEE MY LAWYER!

RED COMET STUDIES TONY SCARO CAREFULLY.....

I'M AFRAID THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF A LOW TYPE OF TWENTIETH CENTURY CITIZEN.

WE'LL KEEP CAREFUL WATCH OVER HIM!

TONY IS ALLOWED TO WANDER WHERE HE PLEASES, BUT ALWAYS UNDER CAREFUL LONG RANGE SUPERVISION...BUT ONE DAY...

HE'S ALL RIGHT, JUST GOING UP IN THOSE HILLS..... COME ON....I NEED REST

WHAT KIND OF A LIFE IS THIS?. NO EXCITEMENT.. NOTHIN TO DO...I MISS THE GANG AND THE SHOOTIN'!

I WOULD LIKE TO TRY OUT ONE OF THOSE SPACE-SHIPS...THEY GOT MORE SPEED THAN ANYTHING I EVER SAW!

STEALING INTO A SHIP, TONY GRASPS THE CONTROLS AND SPEEDS UP INTO SPACE

SOON HE REACHES THE MAMMOTH PLANET, JUPITER...HE LANDS AND GOES IN SEARCH OF EXCITEMENT.

KIL, THE DICTATOR OF JUPITER, HEARS OF HIS ARRIVAL AND SENDS FOR HIM.....

YOU CAN BE USEFUL TO ME IF YOU ARE SMART.. IT IS IMPORTANT TO ME THAT I HAVE A CONTROL IN THE GOVERNMENT ON EARTH SO THAT I MAY BE ASSURED OF THEIR AID IN A WAR I AM PLANNING TO WAGE ON SATURN.

BUT THERE ARE CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE AGAINST MY SCHEMES.. THEIR OPPOSITION MUST BE STOPPED!

SURE, I GETCHA! YOU WANT 'EM BUMPED OFF! DAT'S RIGHT UP MY ALLEY!

THE FORMER GANGSTER LEAVES JUPITER AND SHOOTS BACK TO EARTH..

NOW, THINGS ARE BEGINNING TO HAPPEN DE WAY I LIKE 'EM!

HE LANDS...

BOY, AM I ANXIOUS TO GET BACK TO WORK AGAIN!

THE NEXT DAY SEVERAL PROMINENT STATESMEN ARE FOUND MURDERED!

THE TOLL OF MYSTERIOUS DEATHS RISES ALARMINGLY. .

THE SPACE FORCE IS FRANTIC...

WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SLAUGHTER!

WE'VE EXAMINED ALL THE KNOWN SPACE RAIDERS AND PIRATES...LOOKS LIKE AN ESPIONAGE JOB TO ME..

THE RED COMET OFFERS A SUGGESTION.....

I HAVE JUST UNEARTHED TONY SCARO'S RECORD.. HE WAS A NOTORIOUS CRIMINAL...A MURDERER.. I THINK WE BETTER QUESTION HIM ABOUT THE KILLINGS.

A GUARD IS SENT TO FIND TONY...BUT TWO ARE IN THE PAY OF JUPITER.

GO AHEAD AND WARN HIM.... HURRY!

THEY'VE FOUND OUT THAT YOU WERE A MURDERER, TONY, AND ARE COMING FOR YOU.. BETTER CLEAR OUT, QUICK!

..ER..TANKS, BUD, I'M ON MY WAY.

TONY RUSHES TO A SPACE SHIP....

I CAN HIDE OUT ON JUPITER TILL THIS BLOWS OVER.

BUT AS HE STREAKS OFF, ANOTHER SHIP FOLLOWS SWIFTLY ON HIS COURSE...

IT IS THE RED COMET!

MEANWHILE, KIL, ON JUPITER, WATCHES THE SPACE FLIGHT.

THE FOOL! HE'LL LEAD THE RED COMET STRAIGHT TO US...I CAN'T LET IT BE KNOWN THAT I HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIM.

HE ORDERS HIS REPELLO-RAY GUNS TO BE TRAINED ON TONY SCARO'S SHIP....

AS HE NEARS, THE RAYS PREVENT HIM FROM LANDING.

HIS FUEL RUNNING LOW, TONY IS FORCED TO LAND ON ONE OF JUPITER'S MOONS...

THE DIRTY DOUBLE-CROSSERS! THAT'S GRATITUDE FOR YA! AFTER ALL THE WORK I DONE FOR THEM, TOO!

THE RED COMET BRINGS HIS SHIP DOWN SHORTLY AFTER SCARO LANDS.....

THE JUPITERIANS SEEMED OVER ANXIOUS TO KEEP HIM AWAY..

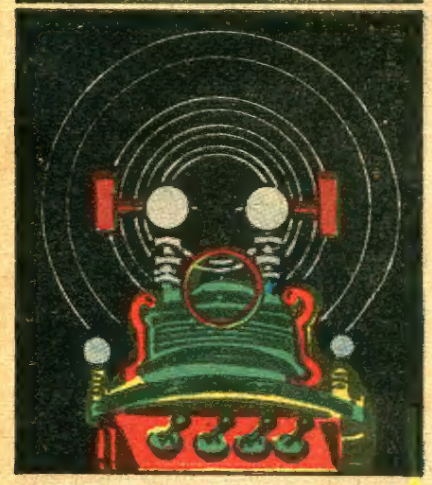
HOLY CATS! THAT GUY'S STILL AFTER ME!
YOU CAN'T BRING YOUR TWENTIETH CENTURY CORRUPTION INTO OUR WORLD AND GET AWAY WITH IT...
IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD TO RUN AWAY!
RED COMET SEIZES THE MURDERER AND A FURIOUS STRUGGLE BEGINS.
WITH A SPACE-SPLITTING BLOW, HE SENDS TONY FLYING.....
THE CRIMINAL CRASHES TO THE GROUND...BUT...
RISES ONCE MORE FOR THE FINISHING BLOW..
NOW, WE'LL VISIT JUPITER ONCE MORE TO SEE WHAT'S UP THERE.

CARRYING THE UNCONSCIOUS MAN TO HIS SHIP AND BINDING HIM SECURELY, THE RED COMET TAKES OFF....

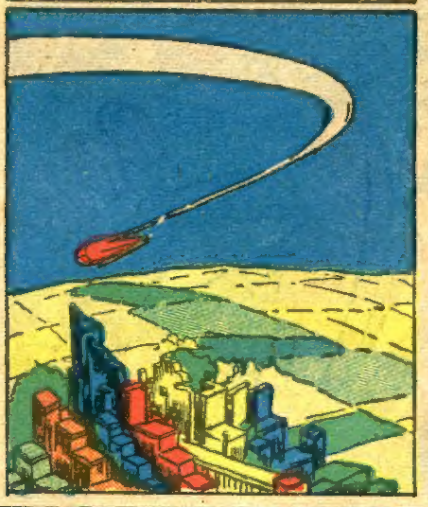
AFTER TONY HAS COME TO..

ON JUPITER...

KIL'S FLEET IS ROBOT-RUN, CONTROLLED ENTIRELY BY ONE HUGE CENTRAL MACHINE.

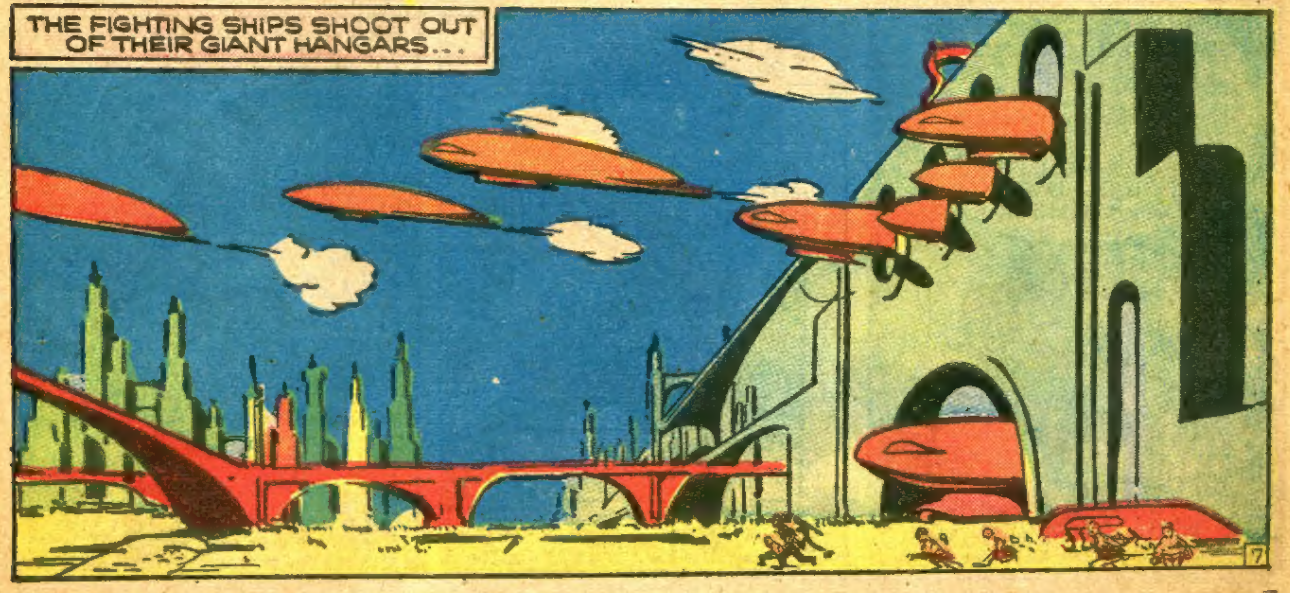


RED COMET SWOOPS DOWN, PREPARING TO LAND.....



BUT KIL GIVES THE ORDER..

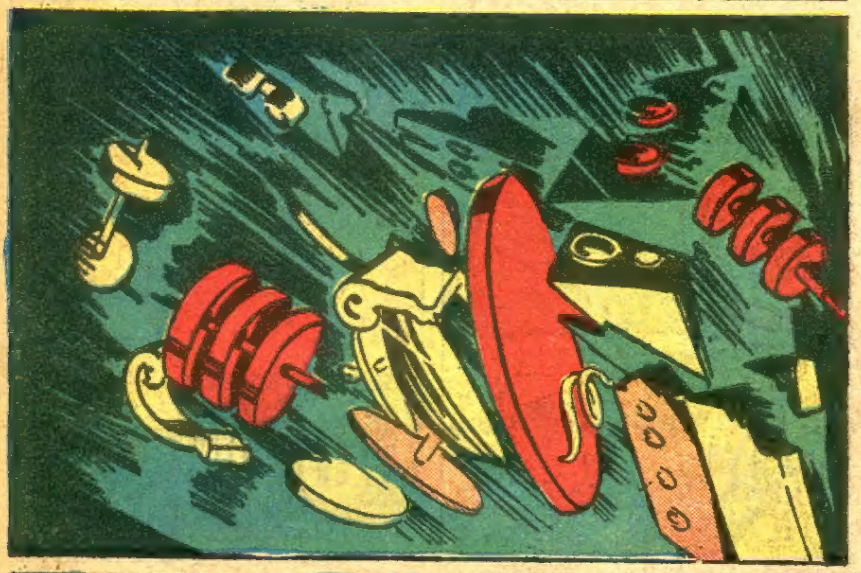
THE FIGHTING SHIPS SHOOT OUT OF THEIR GIANT HANGARS...



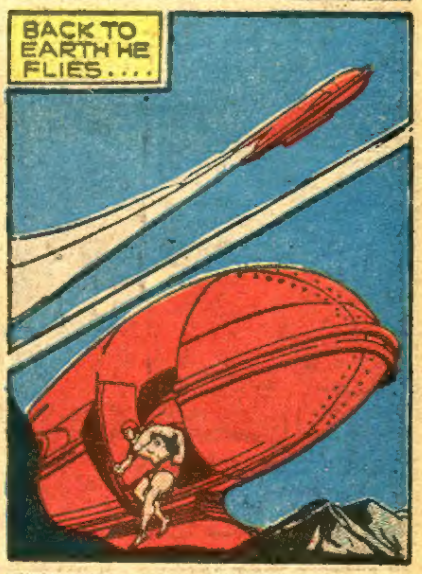
THE RED COMET LEAVES HIS SHIP AND, USING HIS MYSTERIOUS POWER, GROWS TO A GIGANTIC SIZE..

HE REACHES INTO THE CLOUDS AND SEIZES TWO OF THE SPACE SHIPS.. TOUCHING THEIR NOSES TOGETHER...

THEY EXPLODE, AND AS THEY DO SO, A SHORT CIRCUIT OCCURS WHICH BLOWS UP THE CENTRAL MACHINE....

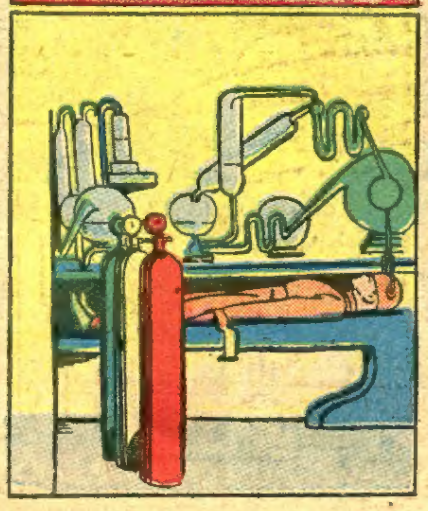


BACK TO EARTH HE FLIES....



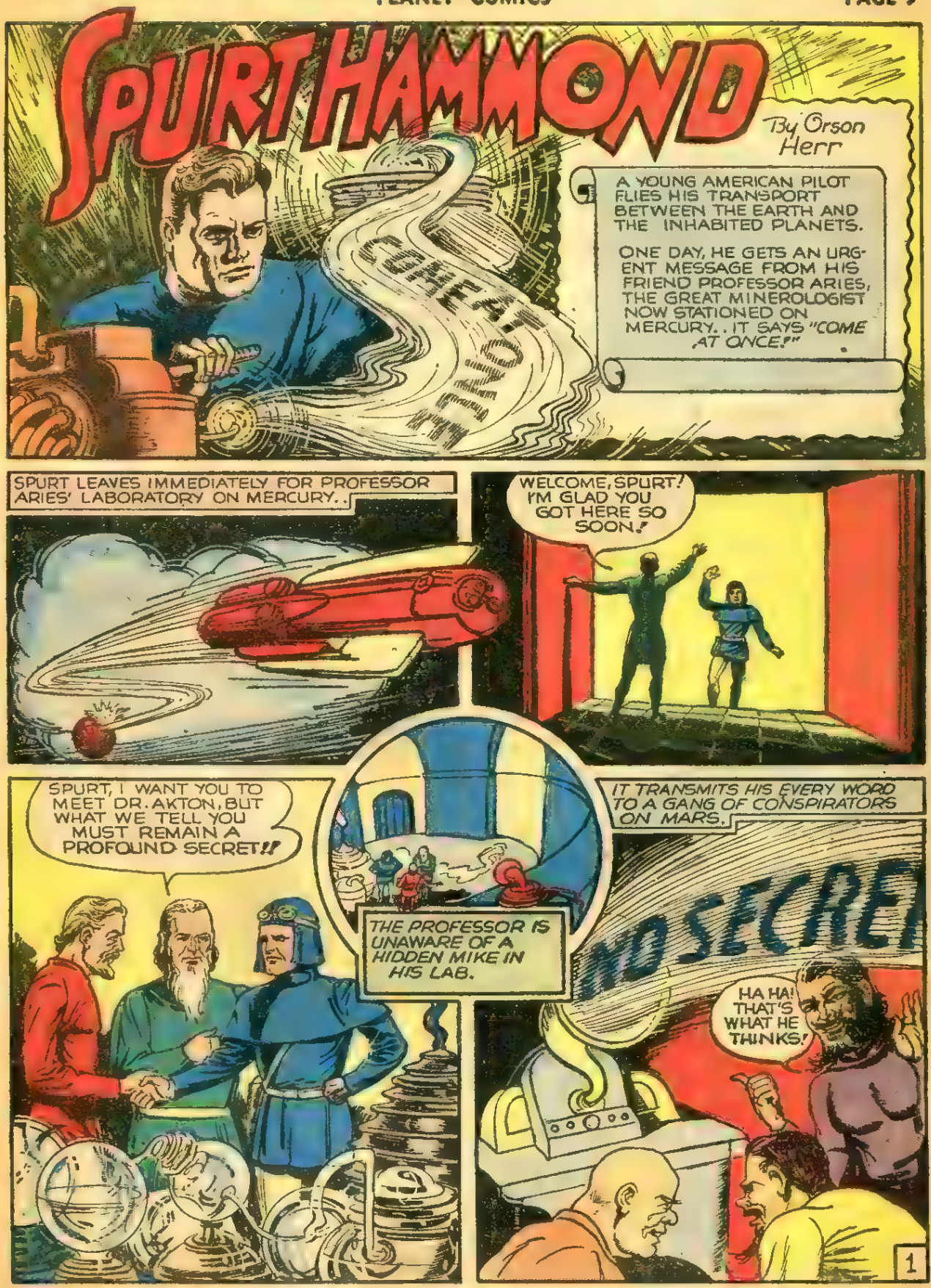
I'VE BROUGHT SCARO BACK AND IT'S MY ADVICE TO RETURN HIM TO HIS FORMER STATE..... WE'VE CULTIVATED OUR SOCIETY ABOVE THE CRIMINAL LEVEL. THERE IS NO PLACE FOR HIM HERE.

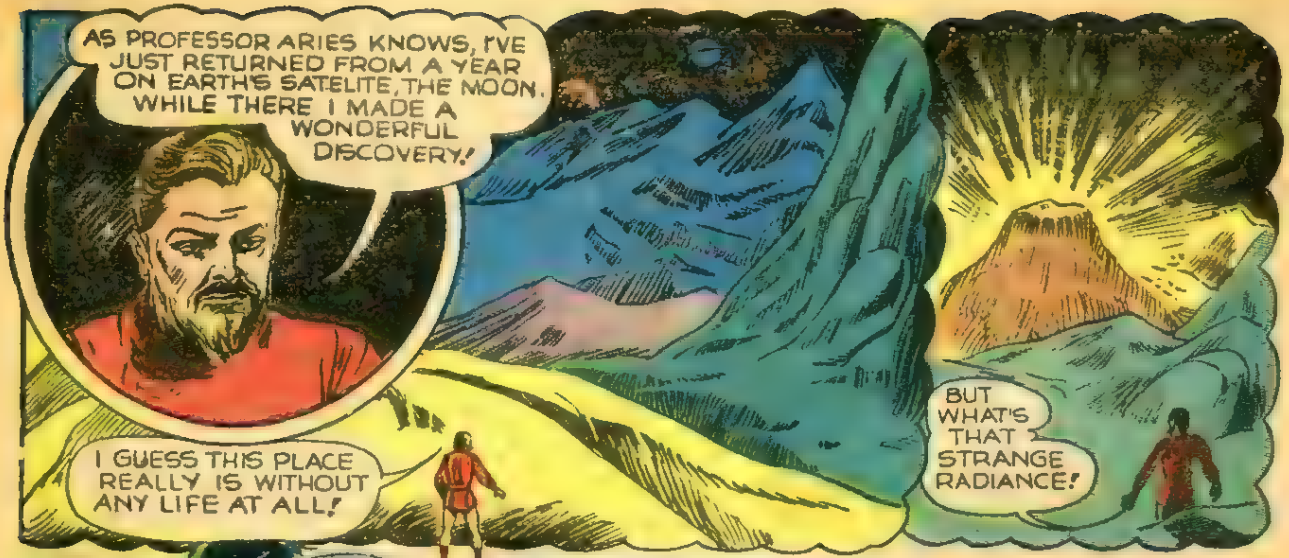
SOON, SCARO IS PUT BACK TO SLEEP WHERE HE CAN DO NO MORE HARM..

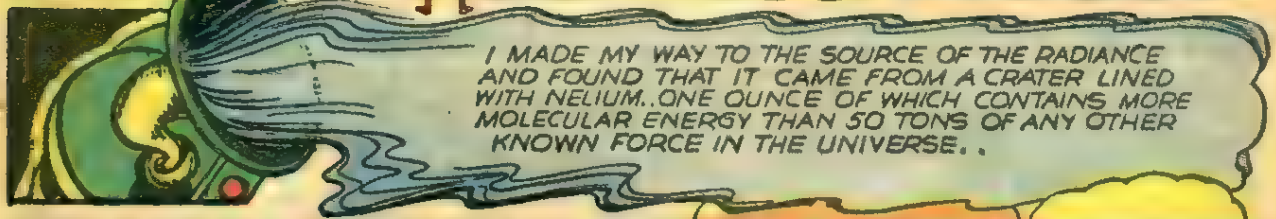


GRATEFUL CITIZENS CHEER THE RED COMET ON TO FURTHER ADVENTURES.....

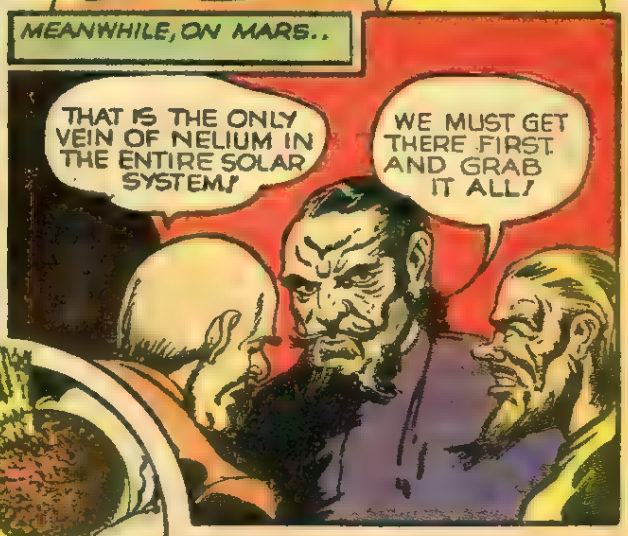
THE **RED COMET** GOES THROUGH ANOTHER HAIR-RAISING ADVENTURE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **PLANET** COMICS

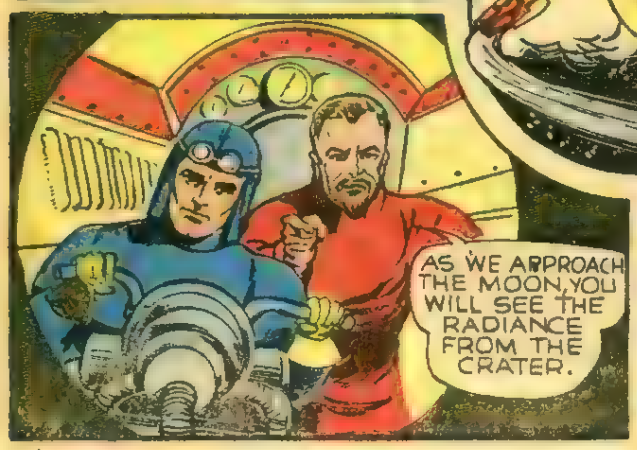

SPURT HAMMOND
By Orson Herr
COME AT ONCE!
A YOUNG AMERICAN PILOT FLIES HIS TRANSPORT BETWEEN THE EARTH AND THE INHABITED PLANETS.
ONE DAY, HE GETS AN URGENT MESSAGE FROM HIS FRIEND PROFESSOR ARIES, THE GREAT MINEROLOGIST NOW STATIONED ON MERCURY.. IT SAYS "COME AT ONCE!"
SPURT LEAVES IMMEDIATELY FOR PROFESSOR ARIES' LABORATORY ON MERCURY..
WELCOME, SPURT! I'M GLAD YOU GOT HERE SO SOON!
SPURT, I WANT YOU TO MEET DR. AKTON, BUT WHAT WE TELL YOU MUST REMAIN A PROFOUND SECRET!!
THE PROFESSOR IS UNAWARE OF A HIDDEN MIKE IN HIS LAB.
IT TRANSMITS HIS EVERY WORD TO A GANG OF CONSPIRATORS ON MARS.
HA HA! THAT'S WHAT HE THINKS!
1

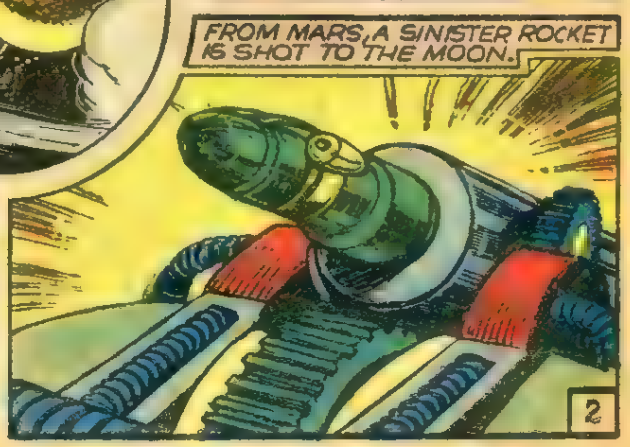

AS PROFESSOR ARIES KNOWS, I'VE JUST RETURNED FROM A YEAR ON EARTH'S SATELITE, THE MOON. WHILE THERE I MADE A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY!
I GUESS THIS PLACE REALLY IS WITHOUT ANY LIFE AT ALL!
BUT WHAT'S THAT STRANGE RADIANCE!


I MADE MY WAY TO THE SOURCE OF THE RADIANCE AND FOUND THAT IT CAME FROM A CRATER LINED WITH NELIUM..ONE OUNCE OF WHICH CONTAINS MORE MOLECULAR ENERGY THAN 50 TONS OF ANY OTHER KNOWN FORCE IN THE UNIVERSE..

THERE IS THE LOCATION OF THE CRATER!
SPURT, WE WANT YOU TO GO BACK WITH DR. AKTON AND GET SOME OF THIS NELIUM.


MEANWHILE, ON MARS..
THAT IS THE ONLY VEIN OF NELIUM IN THE ENTIRE SOLAR SYSTEM!
WE MUST GET THERE FIRST AND GRAB IT ALL!

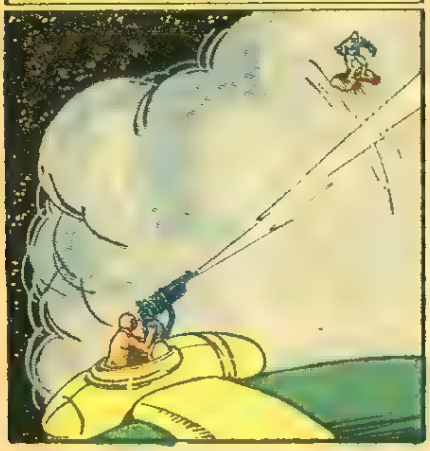

AS WE APPROACH THE MOON, YOU WILL SEE THE RADIANCE FROM THE CRATER.


FROM MARS, A SINISTER ROCKET IS SHOT TO THE MOON.
2

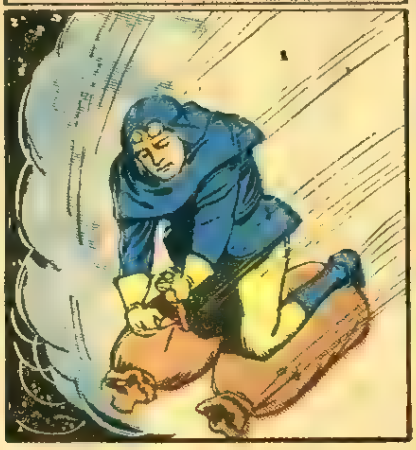
THERE'S THE CRATER, BUT THE RADIANCE HAS VANISHED!
SEEMS TO BE COVERED BY A KIND OF SLIMY CAPE!
WE'LL HAVE TO DIG THROUGH THIS COVER WHATEVER IT IS!
AS THE PICKS CUT INTO THE "COVER," IT COMES TO LIFE. DR. AKTON IS SEIZED. SPURT IS FLUNG ALOFT.
AS HE FALLS, SPURT FIRES AT A HUGE PAIR OF EYES.
GOOD LORD.. THE THING IS ALIVE! IT'S SOME KIND OF MONSTER!
THE MONSTER IS SLAIN, BUT TOO LATE TO SAVE AKTON.
I'LL HAVE TO WORK ALONE NOW!
SPURT CUTS THROUGH THE MONSTER'S BLUBBER LIKE BODY TO THE CRATER BENEATH IT.
HE THEN FILLS TWO BAGS WITH THE POWERFUL NELIUM.
3

AS SPURT COMES OUT OF THE CRATER, THE CROOKS LAND AND RUSH HIM.
BUT THEY FAIL TO SEIZE THE NELIUM.
WE'LL HAVE TO SMASH HIM!
AND SPURT GETS AWAY.
QUICK! BACK TO OUR SHIP!
THE MARTIAN ROCKET DIVES INTO SPURT'S SHIP.
AS SPURT FALLS, HE REALIZES THAT THE NELIUM CAN SAVE HIM.
AS THE BAGS OF NELIUM PASS HIM, SPURT SEIZES THEM AND CLIMBS UPON THEM..THEY SUPPORT HIM.
I'LL RIDE THESE!
4

THE MARTIANS FIRE ON SPURT, BUT THE NELIUM CARRIES HIM OUT OF THE PATH OF THE RAY.

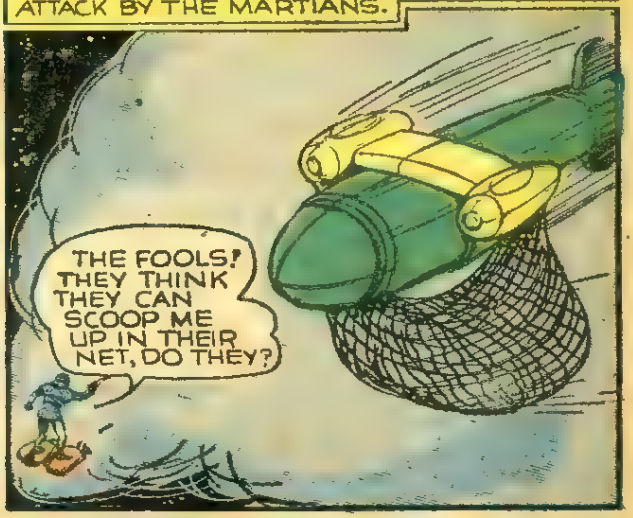


AND NOW SPURT THINKS OF A NEW USE FOR THE NELIUM. CUTTING OPEN A BAG, HE...

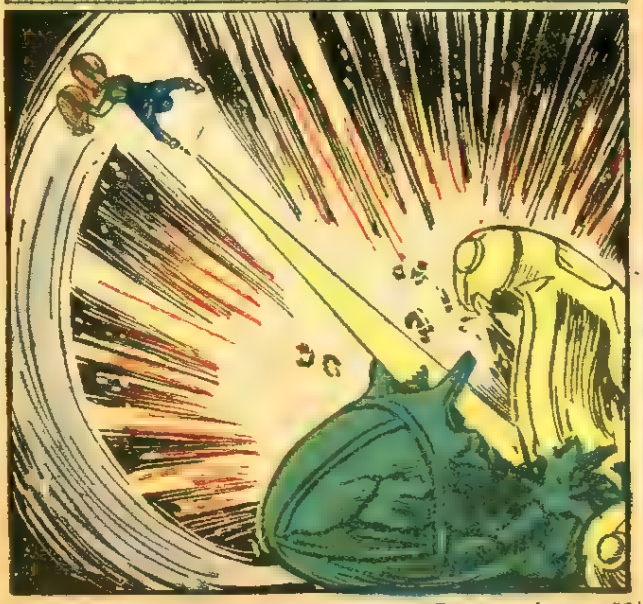


QUICKLY INSERTS A PIECE OF NELIUM INTO HIS RAY GUN. A CHARGE NO STRENGTH CAN RESIST.

SPURT CALMLY AWAITS THIS NEW FORM OF ATTACK BY THE MARTIANS.



SPURT LEAPS ASIDE AND THE ALL POWERFUL NELIUM BLASTS THE MARTIANS TO BITS.



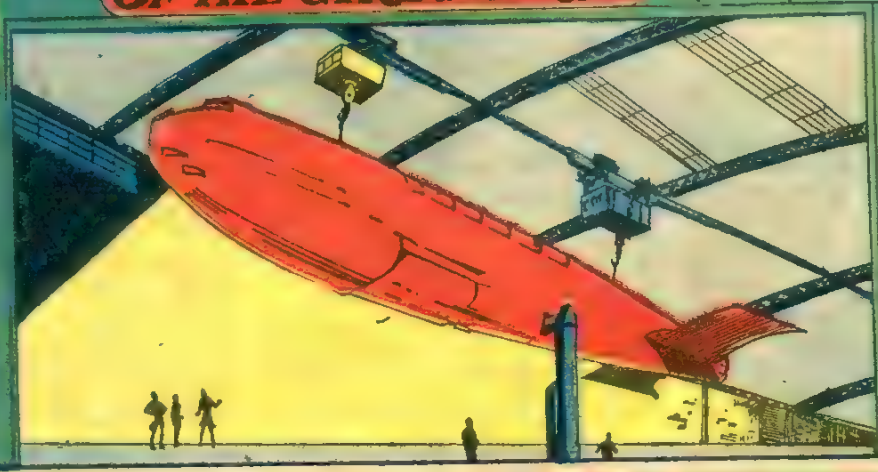
AND SO SPURT RETURNS SAFELY TO MERCURY.

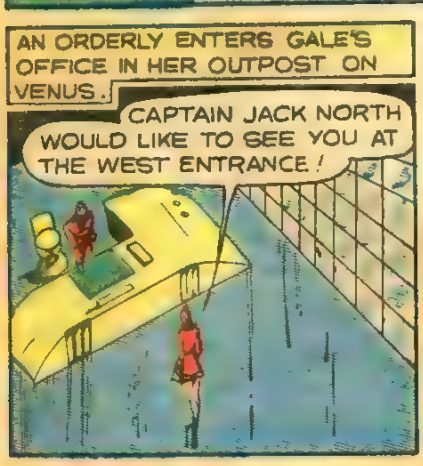
ANOTHER EXCITING ADVENTURE OF SPURT HAMMOND IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PLANET COMICS.

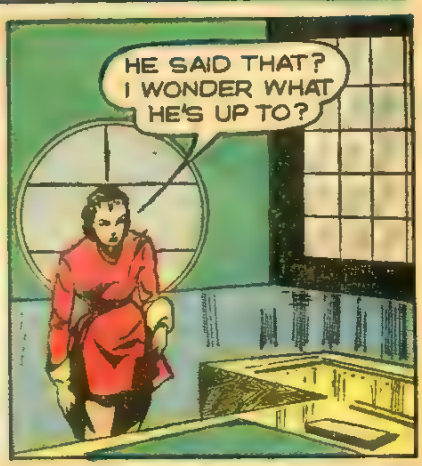
GALE ALLEN

OF THE GIRL PATROL

By Fred Nelson





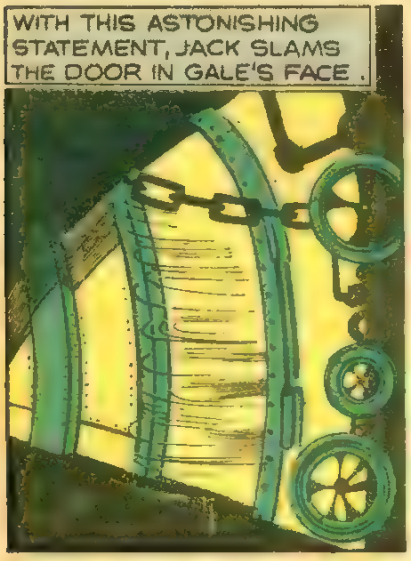


WHY I WOULDN'T THINK OF IT..AW COME OFF YOUR HIGH HORSE, LADY... IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY.. I'VE GOT SOMETHING I WANT TO SHOW YOU OVER THE HILL!

. BUT I CAN'T STAY LONG, I'VE GOT TO BE BACK FOR INSPECTION . .
O.K.!

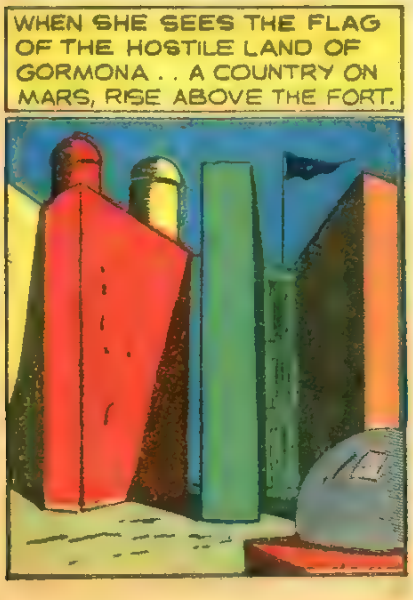
BUT SUDDENLY, GALE WHIRLS ABOUT IN AMAZEMENT. . .
WHY JACK I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO- WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?

I'M TAKING OVER THIS FORT! CONSIDER YOURSELF LOCKED OUT!


WITH THIS ASTONISHING STATEMENT, JACK SLAMS THE DOOR IN GALE'S FACE .

ANGRILY SHE TRIES TO BLAST DOWN THE DOOR . . . BUT IT RESISTS THE RAY . . . .
OH . . I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN . . I HAD IT RAY-PROOFED MYSELF!

WHAT'S COME OVER JACK? I COULD TELL BY HIS FACE THAT HE WASN'T FOOLING . BUT WHY SHOULD HE SEIZE THE FORT FROM ME . . HE'S MY BEST FRIEND . .

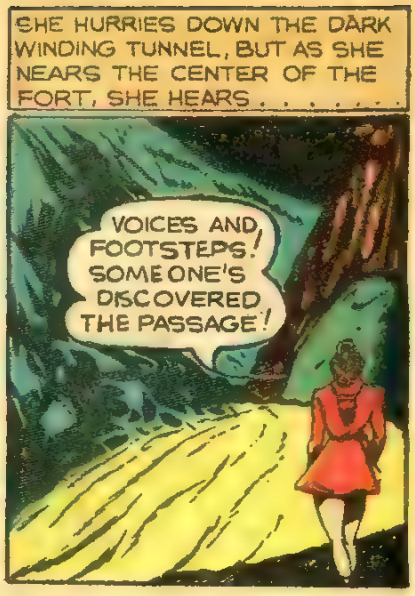

WHEN SHE SEES THE FLAG OF THE HOSTILE LAND OF GORMONA . . A COUNTRY ON MARS, RISE ABOVE THE FORT.

GORMONA! BUT HE CAN'T BE IN THE PAY OF THOSE EVIL WAR MONGERS . . HE MUST BE UNDER SOME HYPNOTIC SPELL!

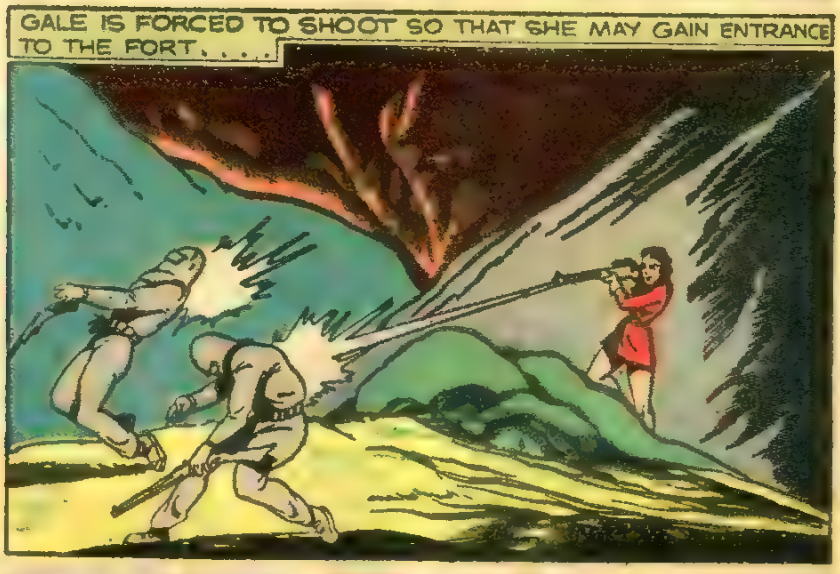
I'VE GOT TO SAVE HIM . . . BUT I MUST SAVE THE VENUSIANS FIRST, THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING . . THE GORMONIANS WILL PROBABLY ATTACK SOON!
2

ANYWAY, I'M NOT LOCKED OUT AS HE THINKS . . THERE'S A SECRET PASSAGE LEADING STRAIGHT TO MY INNER OFFICE!

BY NIGHT, GALE ENTERS THE PASSAGE.

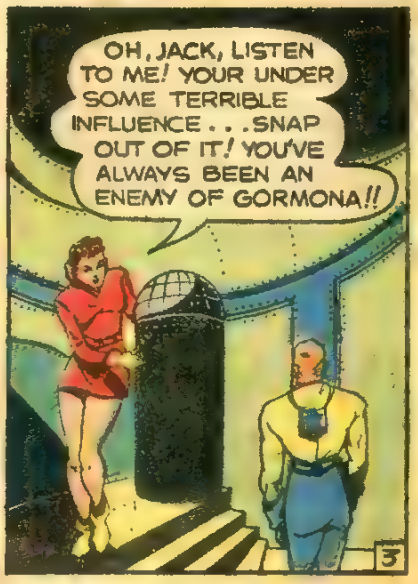

SHE HURRIES DOWN THE DARK WINDING TUNNEL, BUT AS SHE NEARS THE CENTER OF THE FORT, SHE HEARS . . . . . .
VOICES AND FOOTSTEPS! SOMEONE'S DISCOVERED THE PASSAGE!

TWO OF JACK'S MEN . . HE'S PUT HIS OWN MEN ON GUARD . . MY GIRLS MUST HAVE BEEN TURNED OUT!


GALE IS FORCED TO SHOOT SO THAT SHE MAY GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE FORT. . . .

IN A FEW MOMENTS, SHE BURSTS IN UPON JACK . .
GET OUT OF HERE, JACK NORTH, THIS IS MY FORT AND I'M COMMANDER HERE!

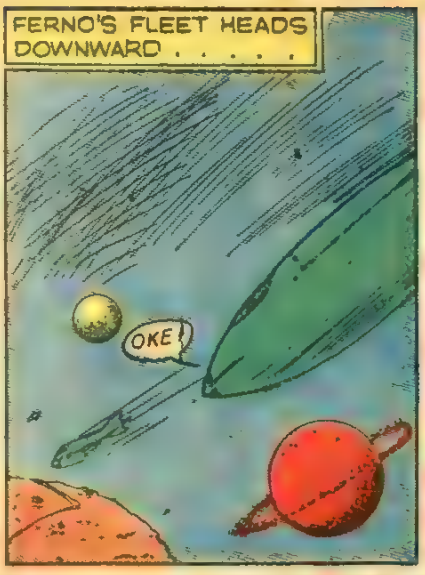
GALE! HOW DID YOU GET IN? IF YOU DON'T GO, I'LL BE FORCED TO HAVE YOU SHOT!


OH, JACK, LISTEN TO ME! YOUR UNDER SOME TERRIBLE INFLUENCE . . . SNAP OUT OF IT! YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN AN ENEMY OF GORMONA!!
3

I SAID GET OUT!
JACK..JACK.. CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND..SOMEONE HAS HYPNOTIZED YOU..OH PLEASE LISTEN TO ME!
YOU'RE TALKING NONSENSE, I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.. ANYTHING YOU SAY CAN'T CHANGE MY PLANS!
I WON'T LEAVE TILL YOU COME TO YOUR SENSES!
THEN I SHALL HAVE TO CALL MY GUARDS.. WAIT, A MESSAGE FROM GORMONA!
JACK NORTH... CALLING CAPTAIN NORTH...
QUICKLY PUSHING JACK ASIDE, GALE GRABS THE RADIO CONTROLS.
NOW I'LL FIND OUT WHO'S BEHIND ALL THIS!
SHE SWITCHES ON THE TELIVISOR..
THE GORMONA FLEET..JUST ABOVE VENUS!
AND THEN THE FACE OF THE LEADER, FERNO FLASHES ACROSS THE SCREEN...
WE ARE PREPARING TO LAND..
SEND UP THE BEAM TO LEAD US THROUGH THE MISTS AND CLOUDS!
I'LL DISPOSE OF YOU LATER..AS SOON AS THE GORMONIAN FLEET HAS LANDED!
NO..YOU CAN'T BRING THEM IN ON THE BEAM..! WON'T LET YOU..I'LL SHOOT YOU FIRST!
4

MEANWHILE, MORE AND MORE SHIPS TAKE OFF FROM GORMONA.
THEY FLY TO JOIN THE ADVANCE FLEET WAITING FOR THE LIGHT TO GUIDE THEM THROUGH THE SHROUDED PLANET VENUS.
BUT THE BEAM DOES NOT SHOOT FORTH.
SOMETHING HAS GONE WRONG! IS IT POSSIBLE TO LAND WITHOUT THE BEAM?
HARDLY, FERNO, THE FORT IS SURROUNDED BY DANGEROUS HILLS, IF WE STRUCK THEM..WE'D BE DONE FOR!
THEN THERE IS NOTHING TO DO BUT WAIT..WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH NORTH? MY HYPNOSIS CAN'T BE WEAKENING!
BACK IN THE FORT, GALE HOLDS JACK AT BAY...
DON'T MOVE A STEP TOWARD THOSE CONTROLS!
SHE RUSHES TO THE BEAM CASTER . . . . .
I'LL BRING THEM A BEAM ALRIGHT!
AND PULLS THE SWITCH . . .
A BEAM THAT WILL LEAD THEM RIGHT INTO THE HILLS!
5

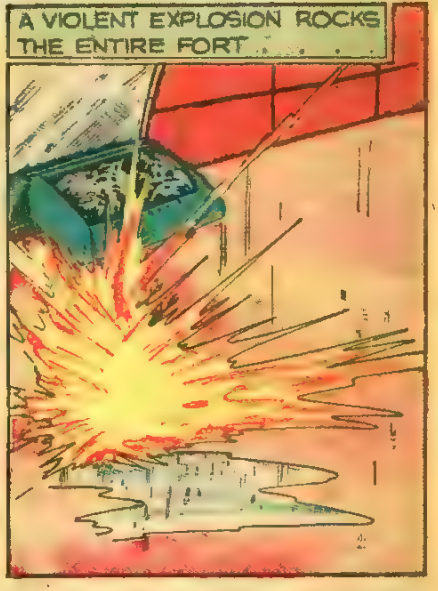
THE BEAM HAS COME THROUGH.. BUT I THINK IT'S OFF OUR COURSE!
FOLLOW IT! NORTH CAN'T BETRAY ME.. HE'S UNDER COMPLETE CONTROL!

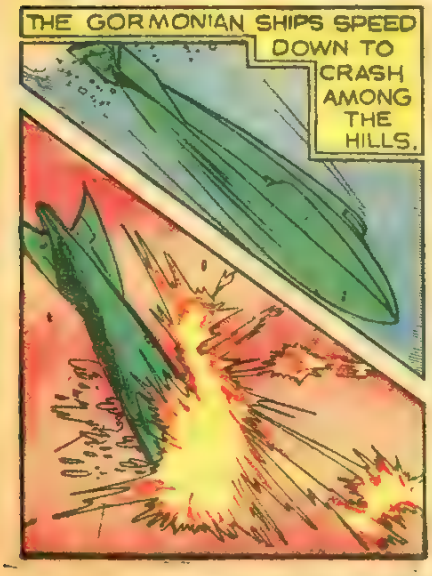

FERNO'S FLEET HEADS DOWNWARD . . . . .
OKE!

MEANWHILE, JACK HAS RUSHED TO THE MACHINE . . . . .
YOU'LL WRECK THE WHOLE FLEET!

GALE CANNOT BRING HERSELF TO SHOOT HIM . . .
DON'T THROW THE SWITCH . . I'VE GOT THE DEFLECTO-RAY ON . . . IT WILL BLOW UP!

BUT JACK DOES NOT LISTEN,
DON'T TRY TO STOP ME THAT WAY!


A VIOLENT EXPLOSION ROCKS THE ENTIRE FORT . . . . .


THE GORMONIAN SHIPS SPEED DOWN TO CRASH AMONG THE HILLS.

THE SHOCK HAS BROUGHT JACK OUT OF THE SPELL .
WHAT A NARROW ESCAPE!

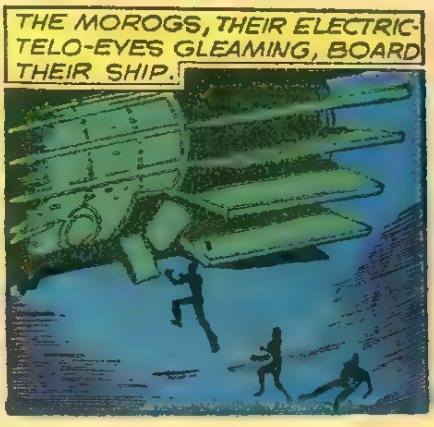
THANKS, GALE, FOR BEING SO PERSISTANT.. JUST BE FIRM WITH ME ALWAYS .. I LIKE IT THAT WAY!
NEXT ISSUE ANOTHER GALE ALLEN AVENTURE.

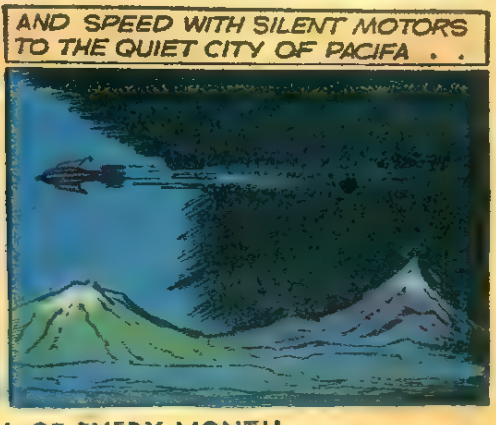
FLINT BAKER

By Stan Aschmeier

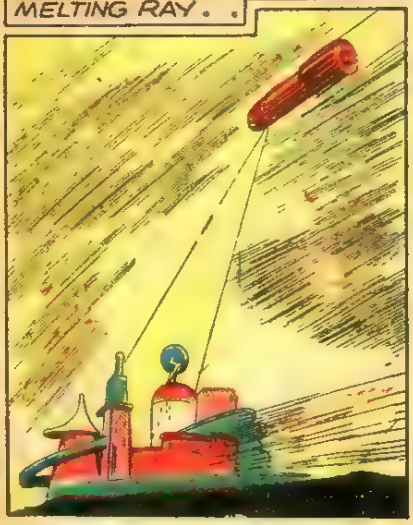
FLINT AND MIMI HAVE BECOME THE FAVORITES OF THE KING OF PACIFA ON MARS. FLINT HAS INTRODUCED MANY EARTH INVENTIONS AND THE CAPITOL HAS BECOME THE MOST PROGRESSIVE CITY ON MARS . . . BUT THERE IS ONE WHO WATCHES THESE DEVELOPMENTS WITH JEALOUS EYES . . .

YOU CLEVER ONE, YOU KNOW IT WILL DESTROY THE STEEL STRUCTURES OF MY ENEMY AND HIS EARTHLING..GO AT ONCE AND PUT IT TO WORK... THEN YOU MAY CLAIM YOUR REWARD!

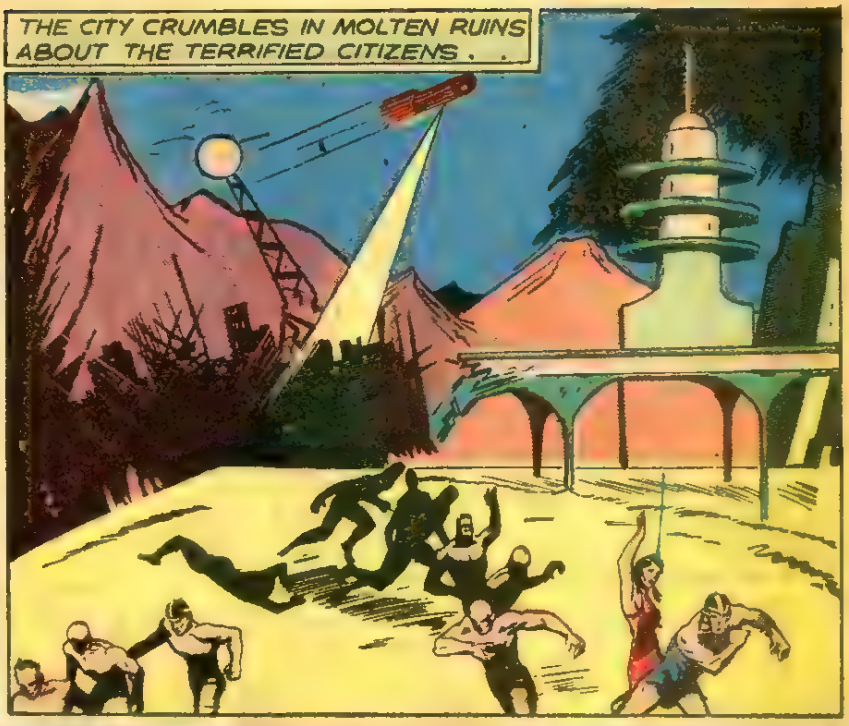




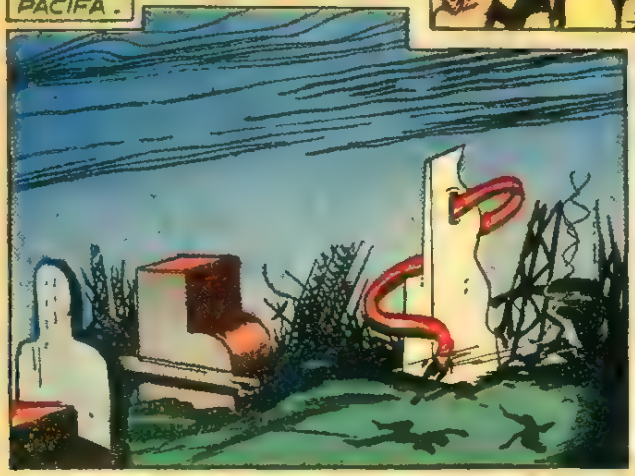
OVER PACIFA, THEY LOOSE A DEADLY SHOWER OF THE MELTING RAY. .



THE CITY CRUMBLES IN MOLTEN RUINS ABOUT THE TERRIFIED CITIZENS. .



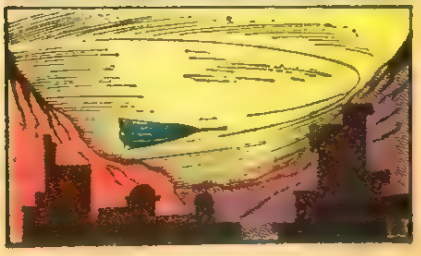
BY MORNING A DESOLATE SCENE IS ALL THAT IS LEFT OF THE ONCE BEAUTIFUL PACIFA.

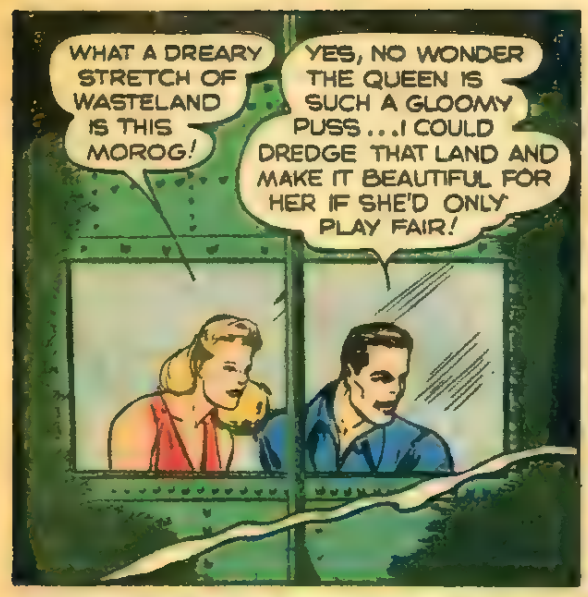


FLINT CAN HARDLY CONTROL HIS ANGER.

FLINT AND MIMI TAKE OFF AT ONCE FOR THE SWAMPY LAND OF MOROG.

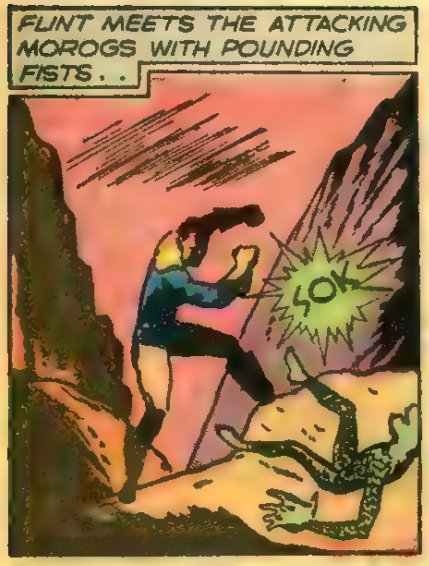
BUT THE TELO-EYES ARE WATCHING AS THEY APPROACH.

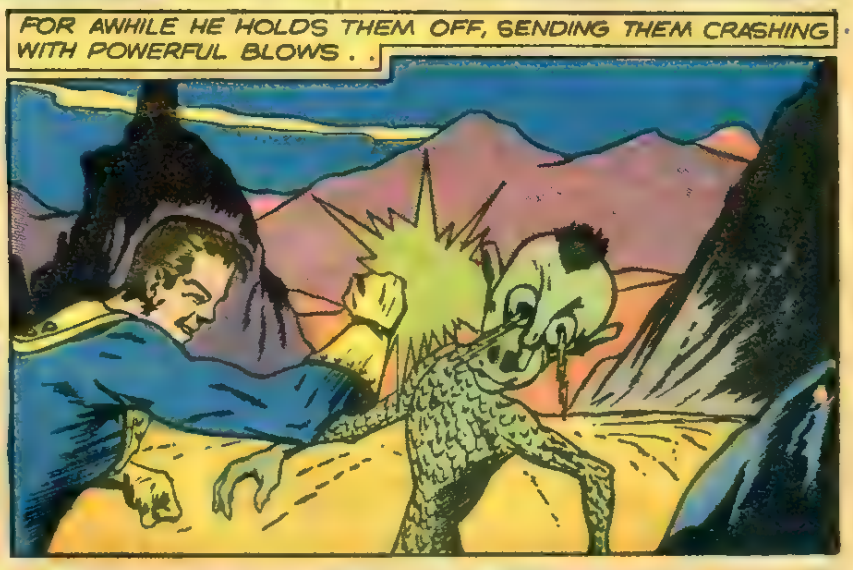


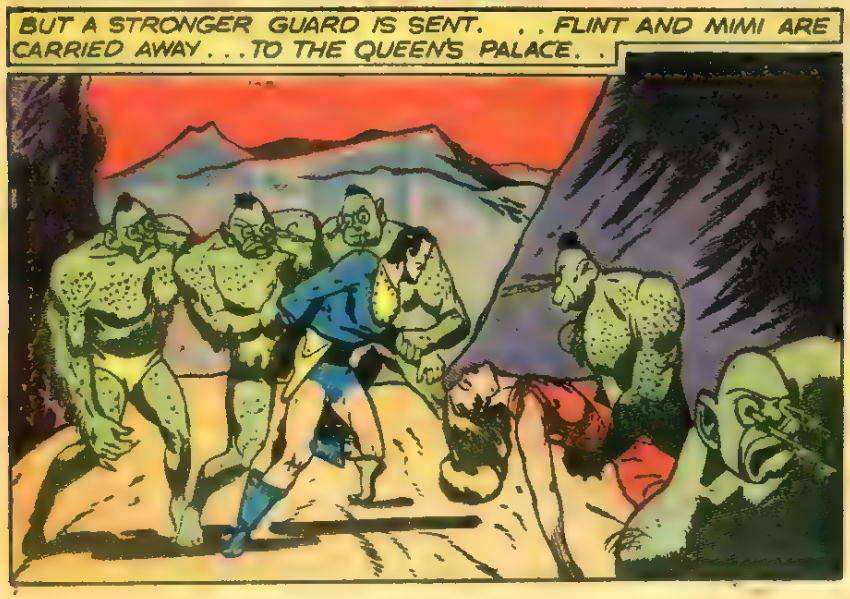

WHAT A DREARY STRETCH OF WASTELAND IS THIS MOROG!
YES, NO WONDER THE QUEEN IS SUCH A GLOOMY PUSS...I COULD DREDGE THAT LAND AND MAKE IT BEAUTIFUL FOR HER IF SHE'D ONLY PLAY FAIR!

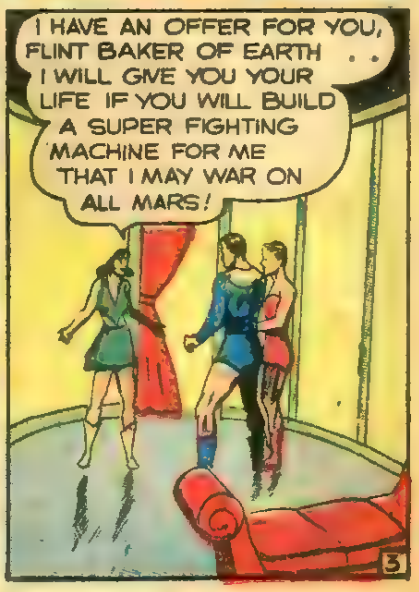
THEY MAKE A LANDING ON THE BARREN PLAIN.

OH..OH..THEY'VE SEEN US! HERE COMES THE UNWELCOMING COMMITTEE!


FLINT MEETS THE ATTACKING MOROGS WITH POUNDING FISTS..
SOK


FOR AWHILE HE HOLDS THEM OFF, SENDING THEM CRASHING WITH POWERFUL BLOWS..


BUT A STRONGER GUARD IS SENT. . . FLINT AND MIMI ARE CARRIED AWAY...TO THE QUEEN'S PALACE..


I HAVE AN OFFER FOR YOU, FLINT BAKER OF EARTH . . I WILL GIVE YOU YOUR LIFE IF YOU WILL BUILD A SUPER FIGHTING MACHINE FOR ME THAT I MAY WAR ON ALL MARS!
3

I ONLY BUILD FOR PEACE AND PROGRESS. I REFUSE YOUR OFFER!
YOU STUBBORN FOOL.. YOU WILL REGRET THIS!
YOU HEARTLESS WITCH! LET MIMI GO... SHE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS!
GUARDS..TORTURE THE GIRL.. BRING FORTH THE MELTING IRONS..
BUT A GIANT MOROG LIFTS THE GIRL, UNCONSCIOUS WITH FEAR, BEFORE THE RAY.
THE INVERTER IS ONLY USED IN TIMES OF EXTREME NECESSITY... AS ITS POWER MUST NOT BE WASTED..
NOW IT'S TIME TO BRING MY ATOMIC INVERTER INTO PLAY..
THE HOT MELTING RAY IS TRANSFORMED INTO A HARMLESS ICICLE...
NOW, QUEEN.. UNLESS YOU WISH ME TO INVERT YOU... FOR I CAN REARRANGE YOUR MOLECULAR STRUCTURE IN ANY FORM I WISH WITH THIS RAY.. WILL YOU LET US GO?
YOU..ARE FREE!

CAUTIOUSLY, FLINT AND MIMI BACK INTO A WAITING SPACE SHIP . . .
WE'LL HAVE TO USE FORCE AGAINST HER, I'M AFRAID . . . SHE WON'T STOP HERE!
THE SPACE SHIP RISES FROM THE GROUND AND CLIMBS INTO THE CLOUDS.
HA! THEY HAVE NOT OUTWITTED ME YET! MY SPACE MONSTER WILL BRING THEIR SHIP DOWN IN RUINS!
I WAS RIGHT! THEY'VE JUST FREED A GIANT SPACE MONSTER,..IT'S COMING TOWARD US!
THE SCALEY, SLIMY BEAST SWIFTLY REACHES THE SHIP AND WINDS IT'S STEELY TENTACLES ABOUT THE HULL . . . . .
I'LL TRY THE BLAST RAY FIRST!

BUT THE SHARP BLAST HAS NO EFFECT . . . .
HE SEIZES AN ELECTRO SABER . .
NO, FLINT . . DON'T GO OUT ON THAT HULL . . . YOU'LL BE KILLED!
IF I DON'T GO, WE'LL BOTH BE KILLED!
FLINT SLASHES BRAVELY.
BUT THE SUCKING SCALES HOLD HIM, IMPRISONING HIM IN A DEATH GRIP.
AT LAST HE FREES HIMSELF.
SPLITTING THE BRAIN OF THE CREATURE, HE KILLS IT . . . SLOWLY IT SLIPS FROM THE HULL OF THE SHIP . .

OH, THANK GOODNESS, YOUR SAFE! I WAS SURE YOU'D BE KILLED!
SUDDENLY, A FAMILIAR SHIP ZOOMS BY.
IT'S SANDY'S SHIP!
SANDY, ONE OF FLINT'S ENGINEERS FROM EARTH SPOTS THEIR SHIP..
FLINT! HE'S TURNED BACK FROM MOROG!
HE CONTACTS FLINT BY SPACE-O-PHONE . . .
HELLO, BAKER! HAVE ANY TROUBLE? CAN I HELP?
THE TWO SHIPS TURN BACK TO MOROG.
SURE..COME ON BACK WITH US AND SEE THE FIRE-WORKS..I'M GOING TO SPANK A QUEEN!
THEY LAND AND RACE QUICKLY TO THE PALACE.
I'LL TEACH THAT YOUNG WOMAN NOT TO GO BACK ON HER WORD!
THERE SHE IS.. APPARENTLY SHE HASN'T HEARD OF OUR ARRIVAL!
WHAT? YOU BACK.. ALIVE?
OH, VERY MUCH ALIVE AND KICKING!
17

NOW LISTEN TO ME! ONE MORE FALSE MOVE AND YOU'LL GET THE PUNISHMENT YOU DESERVE!
THAT'S A WARNING! WE'LL LEAVE YOU NOW.. YOU'VE ONE MORE CHANCE TO REFORM!
BUT THE ANGRY QUEEN SEIZES A RAY-GUN AND CHASES AFTER THEM.
HE CAN'T HUMILIATE ME LIKE THAT!
YOU WON'T LEAVE HERE ALIVE!
THE FIRE MISSES FLINT, BUT GRAZES SANDY'S SHOULDER.
ONCE MORE THE INVERTER SPRAYS FORTH.
YOU'RE BEYOND ALL HOPE!
NOW.. SHE'S AS BEAUTIFUL AS EVER.. BUT HARMLESS.. JUST A LOVELY DECORATION!
ONCE MORE THEY SPEED BACK TO PACIFA.....
WE'VE A BIG REBUILDING JOB AHEAD... BUT WE WON'T BE TROUBLED BY THE MOROG'S AGAIN!
ANOTHER FLINT BAKER ADVENTURE IN THE NEXT ISSUE.
8

SUPER SALESMAN OF SPACE

by TOM ALEXANDER

They called him the Marco Polo of Space, and later, the First Salesman of the Universe. The story was interplanetary that he could sell cooling systems to the Plutonians and heating units to the Mercurians and it wasn't so far-fetched at that, for right now he was spinning on his way through the space lanes to get rid of a ship-load of uranium to a Saturnian satellite named Boolo, whose only export was rich uranium ore. It was like carrying those proverbial coals to Newcastle. But Charlie wasn't the lad to say "can't!" He knew he could sell those Boolonians anything.

Charlie Star was the man responsible for making Spludgus a household word on Earth. Good old Spludgus, that Venusian bread so rich in vitamin content that it turned our puny little Earthmen into muscle-bound Samsons in a month. It was Charlie who first found Plutoil gushing on the frozen plateaus of Pluto and made that famous deal whereby Earth got all the wells in return for the coal mines of Pennsylvania, which had long been in disuse—The Plutonians used the coal for neck-laces to decorate their frigid beauties—and as long as they had no need for the oil—it was a fair enough bargain. Star introduced Mercurian Hongony, Stungo Grass from Jupiter, Martian Gool, among many other things that now grace our finest tables. And

women will always remember Charlie Star as the man who gave them Nogud, the wonderful reducing liquid from the swamplands of Neptune.

And he wasn't only clever, he was a two-fisted fighting man from the old school. And trouble was almost as prevalent as cosmic dust in the Way Far Out—as spacemen called the vast distances between planets.

Charlie stepped up the speed of his faster-than-light ship and headed in the direction of the ringed planet. He was going over his sales-talk that was to sell the unwanted uranium to the Boolonians when he suddenly interrupted his conversation with an imaginary Boolox—

A black hulk was moving toward him through the void. Only one thin thread of purplish light edged the top of the ship to tell Charlie that he was meeting his old enemy, the space-pirate from Mars, Rogero the Red.

And there was no swerving off his course to escape this time, for Rogero had already switched on his suction tubes and the two ships were hurtling toward each other, the one gaining speed while Charlie's freighter was steadily decreasing velocity against the fierce tug of the suction tubes.

Charlie sat back in his comfortable pilot's chair, lit a fragrant Venusian cigar and waited for the pirate to board his ship.

Rogero flung himself into the cabin—much faster than he expected because he didn't have to break down the door. His crimson eyes glowed with startled anger as they burned out through his matted orange hair. He composed himself and drew up to his full seven

feet. Then he came to the point with a sudden explosion.

"Uranium. You've got it. I want it!"

"OK. Take it easy. Sit down and we'll talk this thing over. Have a cigar?" Charlie was all smiles.

"Uranium!"

"Well, certainly, Uranium. But have a cigar. Finest tobacco in the Universe. I have the line exclusively. If you'd like me to supply you—"

"Uranium!" Rogero was almost bellowing. It infuriated him that this little Earthman was so calm, so unafraid

"Ok, you want to unload it yourself?"

"Yes. I unload."

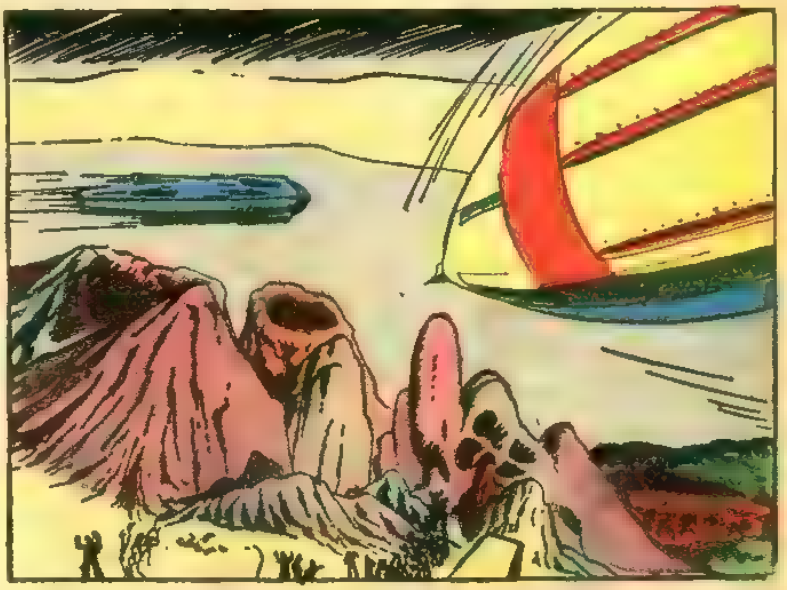
Charlie walked through the narrow passage to the store hold. He put his hand on the door and as he felt the hot breath of the giant warming his neck from behind, he whirled with the suddenness of a weasel and shot a swift uppercut that tangled in the Martian's red whiskers and sent him back thru the passage with a dull thud.

Then, as though a whirling dynamo had been started within him, Charlie went at Rogero with flaying fists. The ceiling was too low for the huge man and his head beat a tatoo against the steel plating as the Earthman drilled away at his chin.

But suddenly Rogero got smart and fell flat on his back —Charlie tumbled head over heels into the pilot's cabin, propelled by a swift kick of the giant's bony knees. He scrambled to his feet, but the Red One was upon him, a murderous fist raised for the kill. It crashed down but sideswiped Charlie's shoulder. Charlie skidded out from under the next blow across the slippery floor. He yanked the covering from the top of his chart desk, bringing papers, pens, books and nick-nacks crashing down on top of him. But it also brought his Dyno-ray gun. Gratefully his fingers closed around it.

Rogero towered above the wreckage in blind fury.

Charlie pressed the ray release and a thin, hot streak shot across the Martian's face. He yelled in pain. Another streak cut across his chest, burning through the reptile skins and toughened fibrous fabrics that he wore. Rogero howled and fell back, clutching his wounds like a helpless beast.



Charlie rose to his feet.

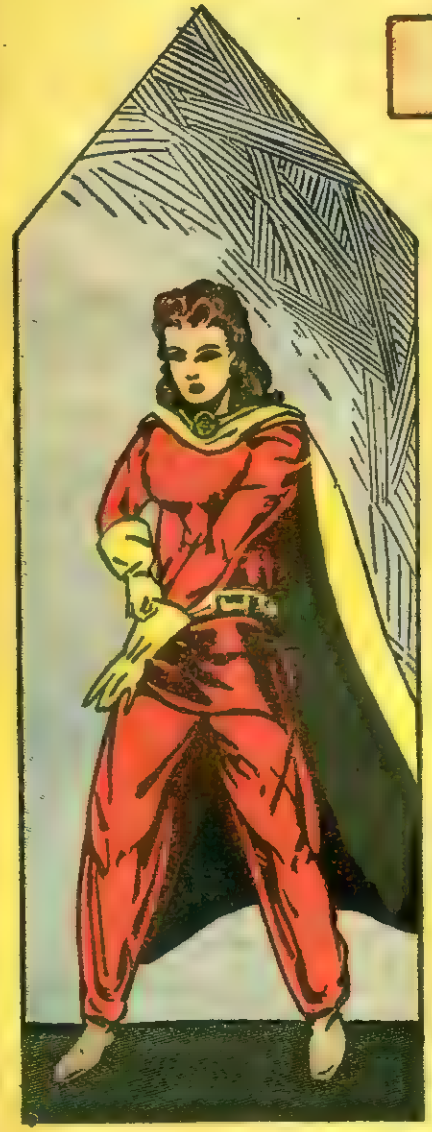
"Now get out. Go back to your ship and don't let me ever hear from you again or I'll put this ray on full force and burn a hole right through you!"

Whining like a dog, Rogero the Red backed away toward the air-lock.

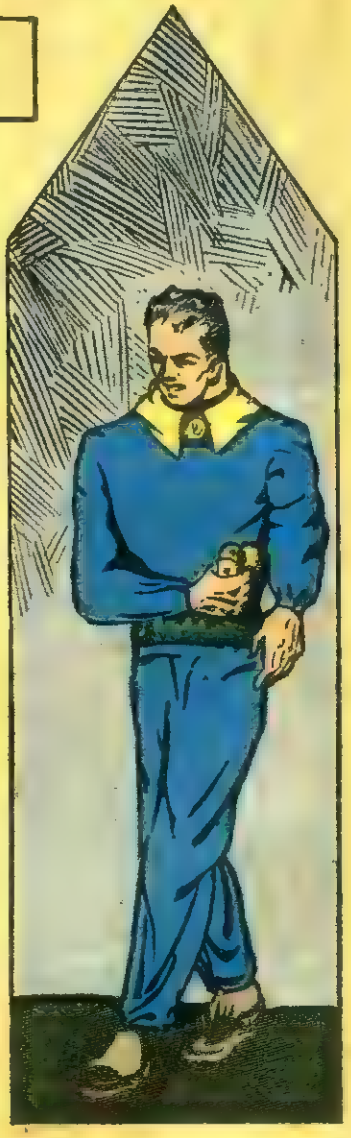
"Hey, wait a minute," cried Charlie, "I'm handling a swell line of ray-proof vests made of tempered Jupiter steel—next time I run into you I'll have some along."

Fashions of the FUTURE

By H.G. Mills

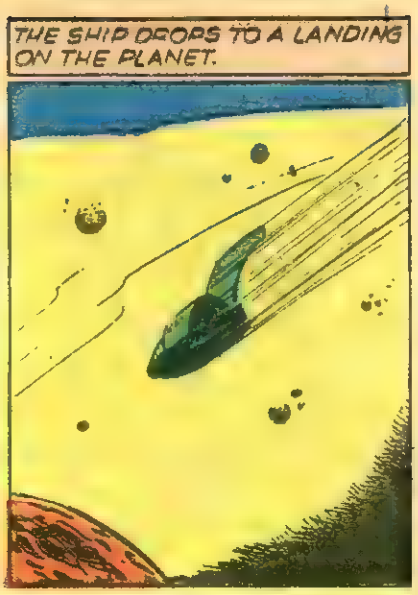


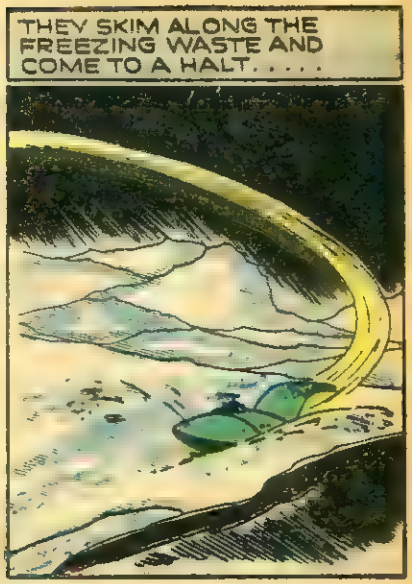
SPACE SUITS FOR BOTH MEN AND WOMEN WILL BE MADE OF LIGHT, TRANSPARENT, SYNTHETIC CLOTH WHICH WILL BE WEATHER-RESISTANT AND TEAR-PROOF. SELF-SEALING CLOTH WILL BE ONE OF THE MAIN FEATURES. ACCESSORIES TO THESE SUITS: RADIO TRANSMITTER, AND RECEIVER OF MATCH BOX SIZE. OXYGEN TUBES, FOOD, CARTRIDGES, AND AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS. ALSO RAY GUNS AND PROPULSION UNITS.

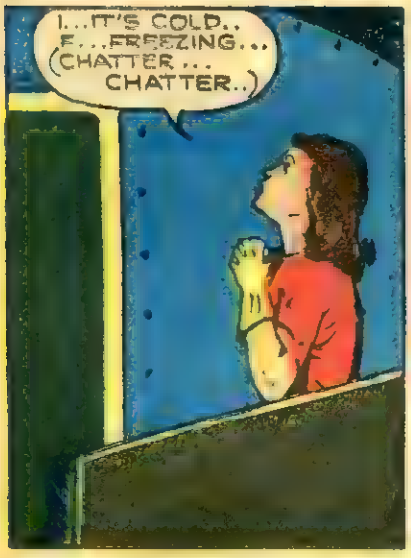


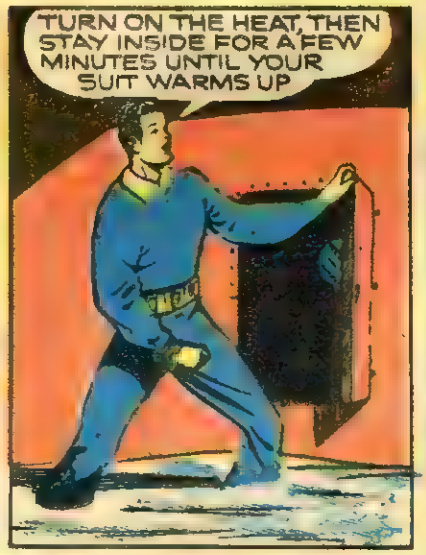
TWO TYPICAL CITIZENS OF THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE, SET OUT IN THEIR NEW SPACE SUITS TO VISIT THE VARIOUS PLANETS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM.

WE'RE OUT IN THE FURTHEST REACHES OF THE SYSTEM.. NEARING PLUTO!


THE SHIP DROPS TO A LANDING ON THE PLANET.


THEY SKIM ALONG THE FREEZING WASTE AND COME TO A HALT. . . . .


I...IT'S COLD.. F...FREEZING... (CHATTER... CHATTER..)


TURN ON THE HEAT, THEN STAY INSIDE FOR A FEW MINUTES UNTIL YOUR SUIT WARMS UP

THEY EXPLORE THE DESOLATE PLANET... SUDDENLY, A GLACIAL CRACK OPENS BENEATH THEIR FEET. . .

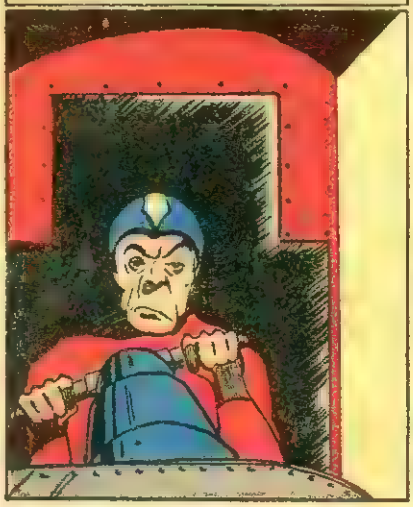
HE LEAPS AFTER HER AND SPEAKS THROUGH THE RADIO IN HIS SUIT. . . . . .
INFLATE YOUR SUIT TO BREAK YOUR FALL!

CHARGING THE PROPULSION UNIT, THEY RISE TO SAFETY.

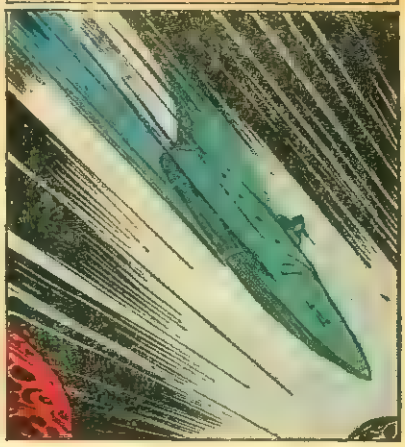
AND LEAVE THE TREACHEROUS WASTE LANDS OF PLUTO. .
2

A PIRATE SHIP HURTLES ACROSS THEIR PATH....

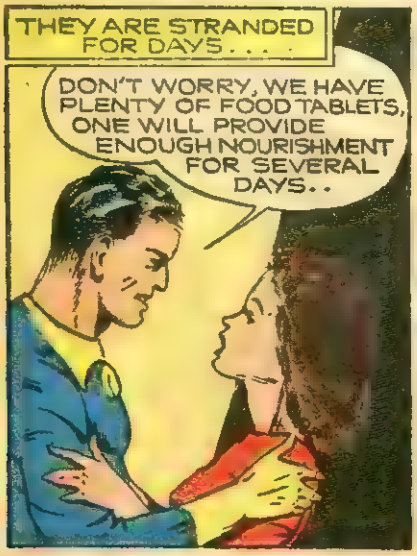
POWERFUL RAY GUNS ARE TRAINED ON THE LITTLE CRUISER.....



HELPLESS AGAINST THE DESTROYER, THEY ARE SHOT OUT INTO SPACE, AND BY USING THE PROPULSION UNIT, THEY LAND ON A BARREN PLANETOID.....



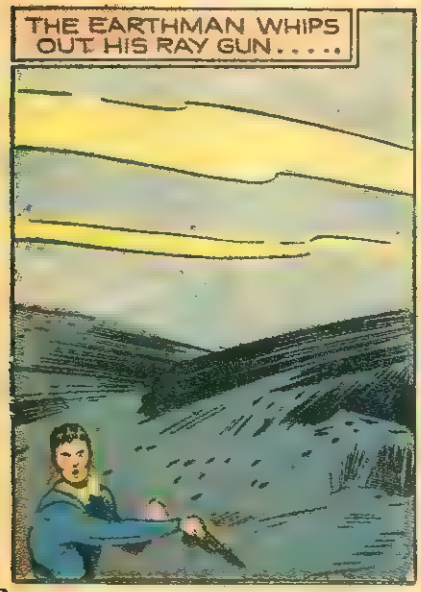
THEY ARE STRANDED FOR DAYS...



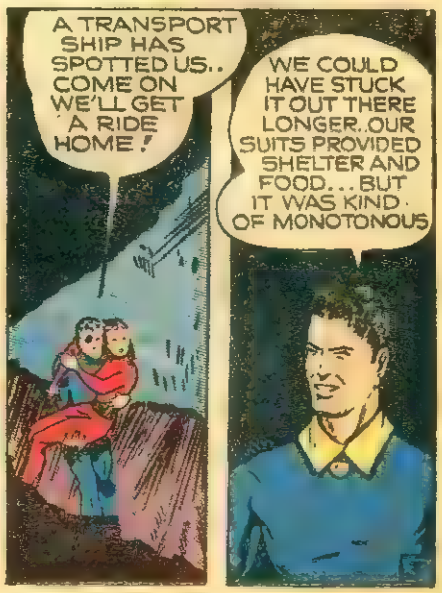
SUDDENLY...

A HIDEOUS CREATURE SWIFTLY CLAMBERS OVER THE ROCKS... MURDER IN ITS EYES...

THE EARTHMAN WHIPS OUT HIS RAY GUN.....



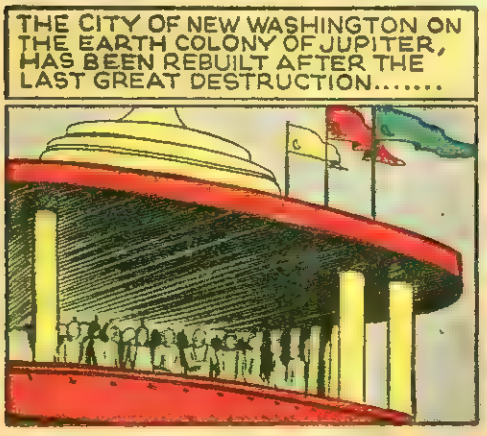
AND BLASTS THE CREATURE INTO OBLIVION..

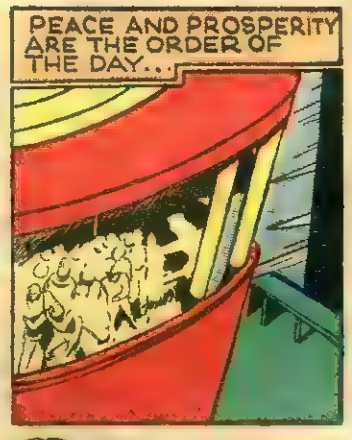

A TRANSPORT SHIP HAS SPOTTED US.. COME ON WE'LL GET A RIDE HOME!
WE COULD HAVE STUCK IT OUT THERE LONGER..OUR SUITS PROVIDED SHELTER AND FOOD...BUT IT WAS KIND OF MONOTONOUS

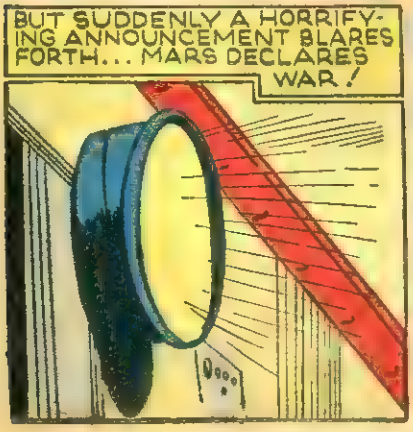
Captain NELSON COLE of the SOLAR AIR FORCE

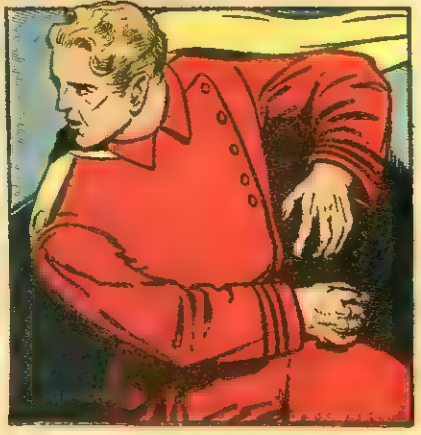
ON JUPITER.

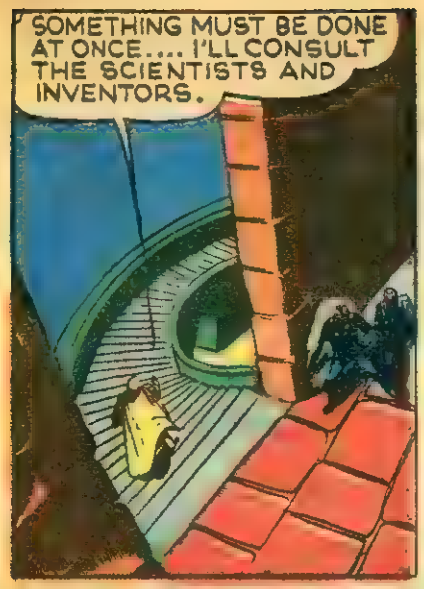
BY BEEKMAN TERRILL





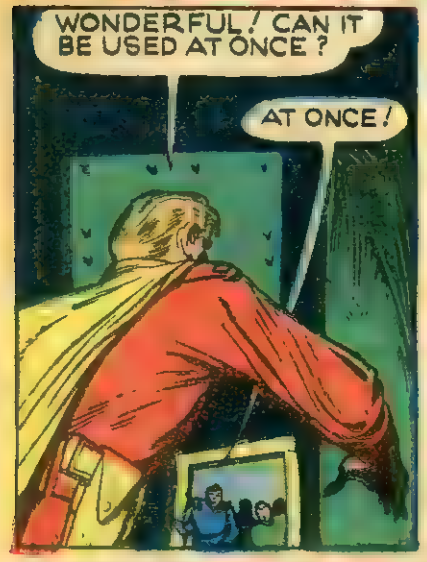




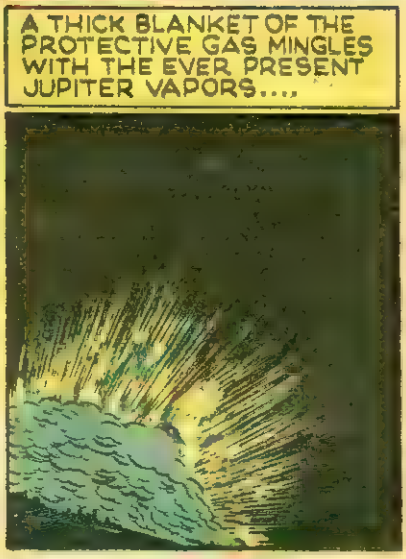

SOMETHING MUST BE DONE AT ONCE.... I'LL CONSULT THE SCIENTISTS AND INVENTORS.

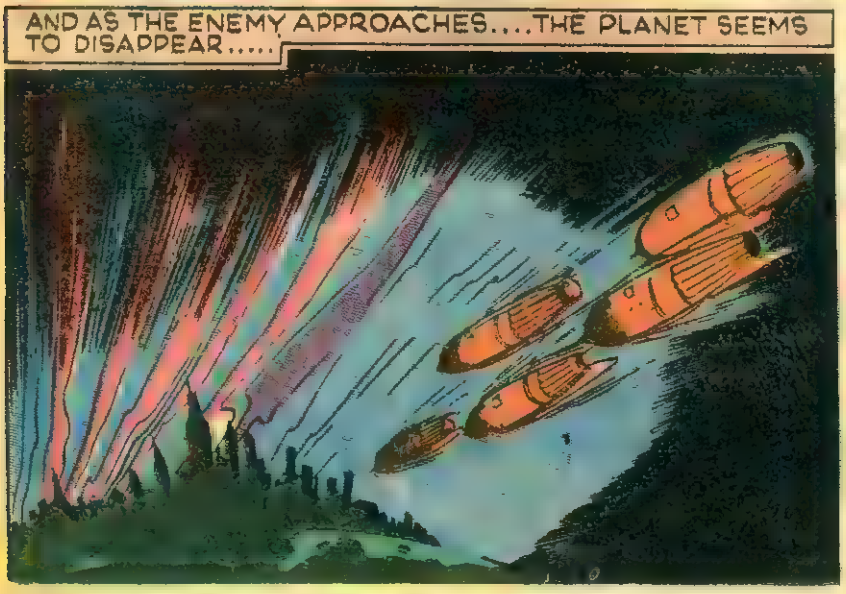
WE HAVE NO ADEQUATE DEFENSES... ONLY OUR SMALL FLEET..... THE MARTIANS ARE ON THEIR WAY NOW... WE MUST ACT QUICKLY!

I BELIEVE THE NEW GAS I'VE BEEN WORKING ON OFFERS A SOLUTION... WITH IT, WE CAN ENCIRCLE JUPITER IN A PERPETUAL BLACK-OUT. IT DEFLECTS THE RAYS OF THE SUN, MAKING THE PLANET INVISIBLE!


WONDERFUL! CAN IT BE USED AT ONCE?
AT ONCE!

IMMEDIATELY, SHIPS, LOADED WITH THE GAS, FLY OVER THE CITY....


A THICK BLANKET OF THE PROTECTIVE GAS MINGLES WITH THE EVER PRESENT JUPITER VAPORS....


AND AS THE ENEMY APPROACHES....THE PLANET SEEMS TO DISAPPEAR.....

THE MARTIANS ARE STARTLED....
WHAT? WHERE IS IT? WE SIGHTED JUPITER ONLY A FEW MOMENTS AGO.... HAVE WE GONE OFF OUR COURSE?

NO, SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED DOWN THERE... WE'LL CIRCLE ABOUT FOR AWHILE

NELSON COLE WATCHES ON A SPACE-SCOPE.... THE GAS DOES NOT PREVENT HIS LOOKING OUT INTO SPACE.... IT MERELY "DEFLECTS" THE SUN RAYS COMING TOWARD JUPITER....

WE'VE GOT THEM COMPLETELY BAFFLED!

THEN WE'D BETTER SEND UP A FLEET AND ROUT THEM!

COLE'S FLEET COMES THROUGH THE MIST TO MEET THE MARTIANS..

THEY SURPRISE THE ENEMY BY APPARENTLY ZOOMING UP OUT OF NOWHERE.....

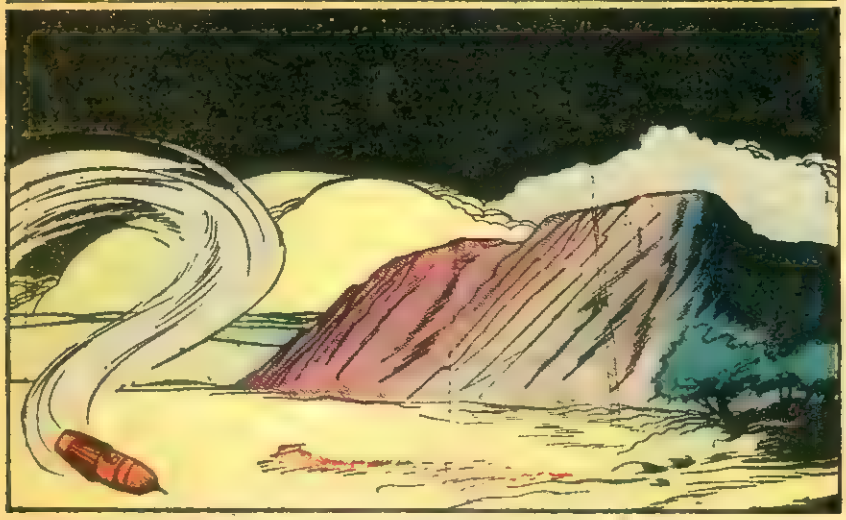
THE WITHERING FIRE SOON SENDS THE MARTIAN FLEET SHATTERING THROUGH SPACE..... MANY FLY BLINDLY THROUGH THE BLACK GAS TO CRASH ON THE FACE OF JUPITER....

ZZZZZZ

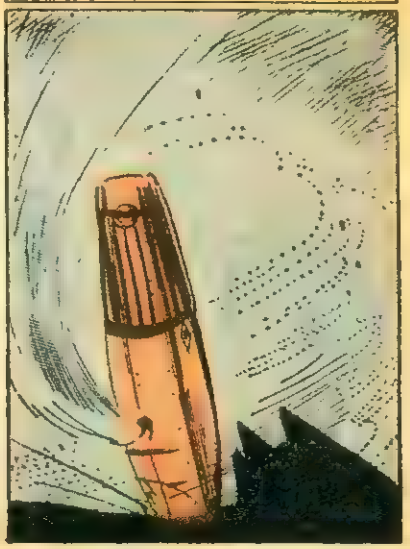
ZZZ

ONLY ONE SMALL SHIP ESCAPES THE RAY GUNS, AND FOLLOWS COLE'S FLEET BACK TO JUPITER.

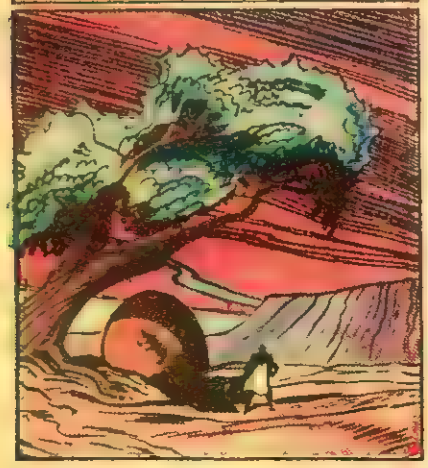
BUT THE MARTIAN MISJUDGES HIS DISTANCE AND TRIES DESPERATELY TO ZIG-ZAG TO A SLOW LANDING.....



BUT HE CRASHES.....



HIS SHIP A COMPLETE WRECK, THE MARTIAN VENTURES FORTH....



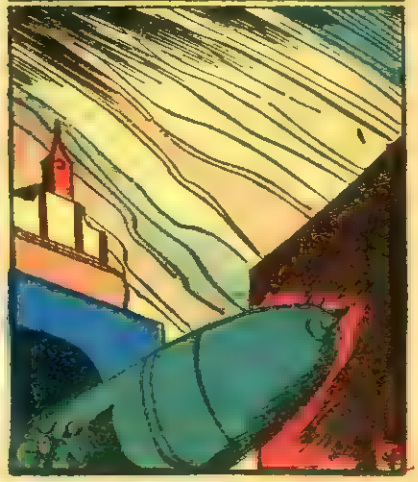
I'LL DISCOVER THE CAUSE OF THE BLACKOUT!

SILENTLY, UNSEEN BY ANY GUARDS, HE VENTURES THROUGH THE CITY.....

AND HE OVERHEARS.....

SO! IT'S A GAS!.. I CAN OBTAIN A SAMPLE BY FILTERING THE VAPORS AND IF THERE IS A COUNTER-GAS, OUR MARTIAN SCIENTISTS CAN DISCOVER IT!

THE MARTIAN HURRIES TO THE AIRPORT WHERE HE ATTEMPTS TO BOARD A SHIP.....



A GUARD SEES HIM....
HALT! WHO GOES THERE ???
OH! ONE OF OUR MARTIAN FRIENDS THAT SURVIVED THE GREAT "INVASION"..... OUR CAPTAIN WILL LIKE TO SEE YOU.
BUT THE MARTIAN WHEELS ABOUT AND FIRES A DEADLY RAY.....
THE CAPTAIN WILL SEE ME..... WHEN I RETURN WITH MY FLEET!
HE ENTERS THE SHIP AND SWIFTLY LEAVES THE FIELD....
AND SHOOTS OFF INTO OUTER SPACE..
GOOD! THEY HAVEN'T ATTEMPTED TO FOLLOW!
THE DEAD GUARD IS DISCOVERED.....
WHO COULD HAVE DONE IT ?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT!
I DO! THERE GOES ONE OF OUR SHIPS.... SOMEONE HAS STOLEN IT!
DON'T LIFT THE BLACK-OUT! WE HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF THE MARTIANS !!

SEVERAL WEEKS LATER...

MAN THE SHIPS! THE ADVANCE SHIPS WILL BE LOADED WITH A COUNTER-GAS..... AFTER THEY'VE CUT THROUGH THE BLACKOUT....WE FOLLOW!

WHILE ON JUPITER, COLE'S FLEET STANDS READY..

NELSON COLE KEEPS AN UNCEASING VIGIL ON THE HEAVENS.....

THEY SHOULD ATTACK SOON!

AT LAST.....

HERE THEY COME.....

SEND A FLEET UP... AND PUT A DOUBLE GUARD ON OUR LAND DEFENSES!

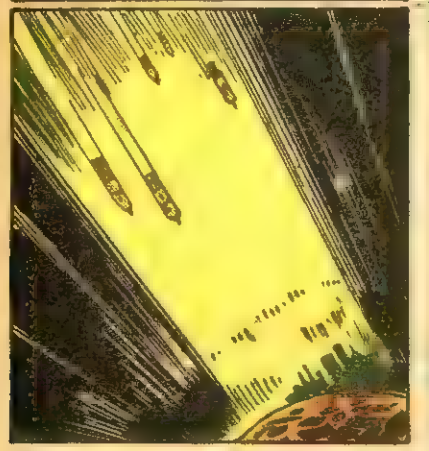
COLE INSPECTS HIS ENTIRE FORCE AS THE PREPARATIONS BEGIN.....

THE MARTIANS SPEED NEARER AND NEARER TO THE GIANT PLANET.....

SUDDENLY!

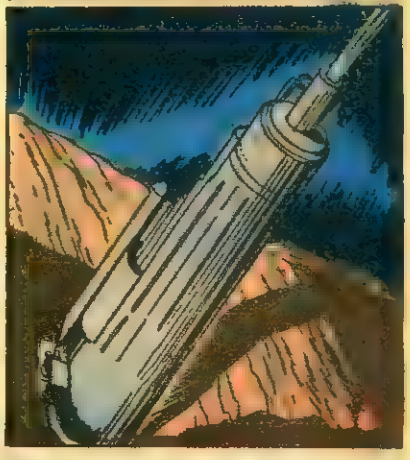
CAPTAIN COLE! *LOOK, SIR!* THEY'VE CUT A LANE THROUGH THE BLACK-OUT!

THE COUNTER-GAS DOES ITS WORK...THE ENEMY PREPARES TO DROP THROUGH THE LIGHTED AREA...



WE MUST CLOSE THE GAP AT ONCE!

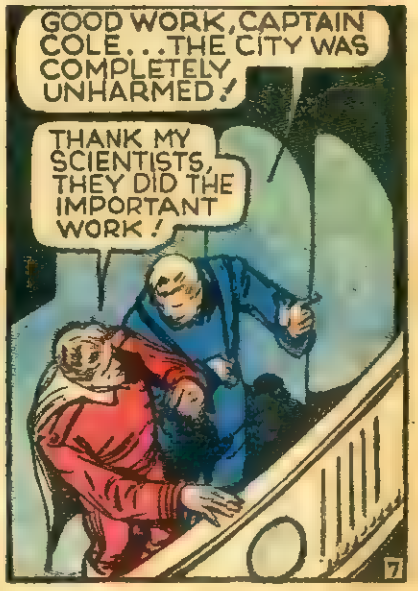
THE BLACK-OUT GAS IS NOW SHOT FROM HUGE GUNS...THE AIR IS ONCE MORE FILLED WITH DARKENED VAPORS....



THE MARTIAN FLEET HAS ALREADY SPED THROUGH TO A LANDING AND AS THE GAS CLOSES IN AROUND THEM, THEY CRASH..THE SURVIVORS ARE MET WITH COLE'S FURIOUS RESISTANCE...

WHEN RAY-GUNS FAIL, COLE'S FLYING FISTS PROVE JUST AS EFFECTIVE.

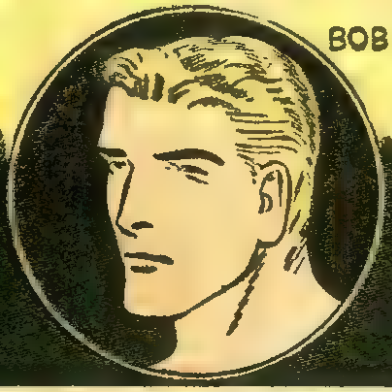
THE LAST OF THE MARTIAN SHIPS DIVES THROUGH THE BLACK-OUT.



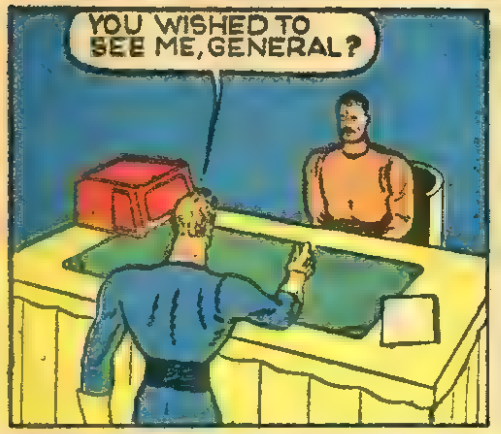
BUZZ CRANDALL

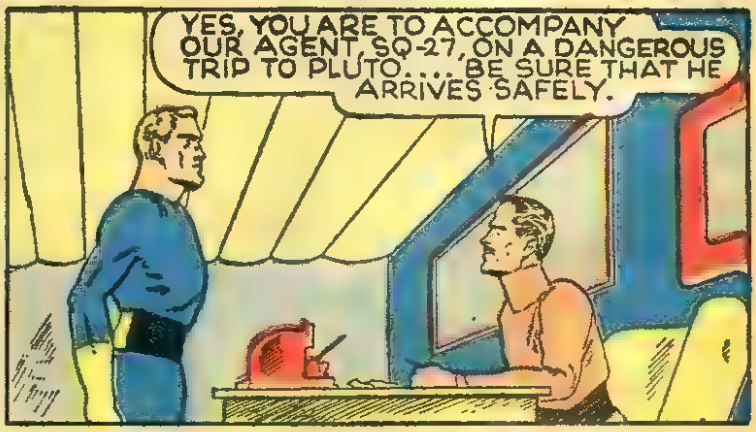
Of The SPACE PATROL

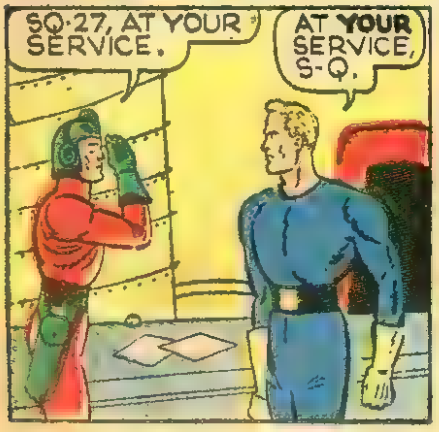
BY BOB JORDAN



BUZZ HAS BEEN MADE A CAPTAIN OF THE SATURN SPACE ARMY... HE IS CALLED TO HEADQUARTERS ON AN IMPORTANT MISSION.....







BUZZ AND THE SECRET AGENT SET OFF IN A MAIL SHIP FOR PLUTO...

ARE WE EXPECTING TROUBLE FROM PLUTO, SQ ?

SORRY, BUT I CAN'T INDULGE ANY INFORMATION.....

SUDDENLY, SQ-27 STIFFENS AND TURNS PALE..... A DEATHLY GREEN CREEPS OVER HIS CONTORTED FACE.....

I-I'VE BEEN POISONED! I'M DYING !!

LISTEN, CAPTAIN CRANDALL... MUST GET PLANS... PLUTO INTENDS TO ATTACK SATURN.... FIND OUT WHEN... WHERE.... OH... I... UH.....

HE'S DEAD.....A PLUTONIAN SPY ON EARTH MUST HAVE GIVEN HIM A DELAYED POISON... I'LL HAVE TO DO HIS JOB FOR HIM'.....

AS HE NEARS PLUTO, A GUARD RUSHES TO ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL SHIP.....

I'LL SET THE AUTOMATIC CONTROLS... LEAVE THE SPACE-LOCK OPEN SO THEY'LL THINK I FELL OUT, AND.....

CRAWL INTO THE MAIL TUBE MYSELF.

SWIFTLY HE DESCENDS UPON THE CITY... THE PALACE STANDS IN THE CENTER.....

HIS SHIP COMES DOWN TO A PERFECT LANDING ON THE PALACE GROUNDS.....

AN ATTENDANT OPENS THE SPACE-LOCK...

A DEAD PILOT? HOW UNFORTUNATE.

HE MUST BE THE SATURNIAN AGENT OUR MAN POISONED!

THE MAIL TUBE IS CARRIED TO THE PALACE....

AND AS IT IS UNSEALED..

BUZZ STEPS OUT WITH READY FISTS FLYING.....

CRACK

HE "CRACKS" HIS WAY DOWN THE LONG CORRIDORS.....

CRACK!

AT LAST HE WINDS UP THE LAST RESISTANCE AND CHANGES INTO THE GUARD'S CLOTHES....

AND APPEARS BEFORE THE CAPTAIN OF THE GUARDS....

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? YOU WERE CALLED TEN MINUTES AGO!

SORRY, SIR. I RAN INTO A LITTLE INTERFERENCE ON THE WAY.

13

GUARD THE DOOR TO THE CONFERENCE ROOM....LET NO ONE BUT OUR MEN PASS IN OR OUT.
YES, SIR.
BUZZ CAUTIOUSLY PEERS THROUGH THE KEY HOLE INTO THE CONFERENCE ROOM.....
THEY'RE DISCUSSING THE INVASION OF SATURN!
WE WILL DEPEND ON THE SURPRISE ELEMENT.... IT IS OUR ONLY HOPE IN ATTACKING SATURN. WE MUST LET NONE OF OUR PLANS LEAK OUT.
BUZZ CAN SEE THE CHARTS AND PAPERS WITH DETAILED PLANS LAID OUT ON THE TABLE....
SUDDENLY A GUARD RUSHES TO HIS CAPTAIN..
THERE'S A SPY IN THE PALACE, SIR... HE'S KNOCKED OUT SEVERAL OF OUR MEN... HE ARRIVED IN THE MAIL TUBE, I BELIEVE.
AS THE OFFICIALS RUSH EXCITEDLY FORTH, BUZZ STEPS BACK AGAINST THE WALL....
NOW I'VE GOT TO THINK FAST...OR ELSE..
HE CONFRONTS THE PLUTONIANS....
IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR THE SPY, I CAN POINT HIM OUT TO YOU. HE IS IN YOUR MIDST!
THE GUARD WHO REPORTED THE PRESENCE OF THE SPY IS THE AGENT FROM SATURN!
THEY TURN FURIOUSLY ON THE PLUTONIAN GUARD....
IT IS PROBABLY TRUE... SOUNDS LIKE A CLEVER TRICK TO THROW US OFF THE TRACK!
BUT HE LIES! I AM ONE OF YOUR MEN... I SWEAR IT! EXAMINE HIM, WHY DON'T YOU?

BUT AS THEY ARGUE, BUZZ SLIPS INTO THE CONFERENCE ROOM...

WOW! THEY'VE GOT THEIR ATTACK WORKED OUT TO THE 'NTH DEGREE. IT'S A GOOD THING I GOT HERE IN TIME!

QUICK AS A WEASEL, HE WHIPS ABOUT AS A GUARD STEALS SILENTLY UP BEHIND.....

SOCK

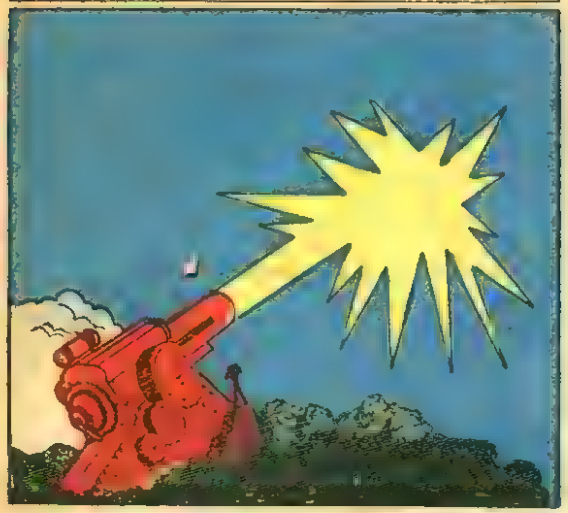
HE GRABS THE PLANS..

AND DASHES OFF IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE...

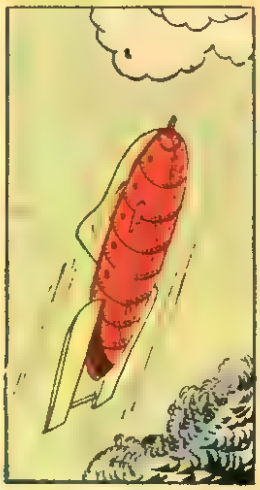
HIS PATH IS BLOCKED ON ALL SIDES, BUT HE PLOWS THROUGH WITH THE STRENGTH OF AN ANGRY BULL.....

AT LAST HE RACES TO HIS WAITING SHIP....

THE PLUTONIANS PUT THEIR ANTI-SPACE CRAFT GUNS TO WORK....



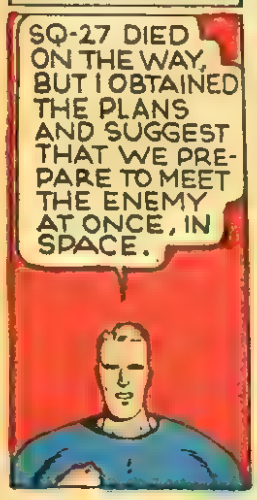
BUT BUZZ EVADES THEM SUCCESSFULLY..



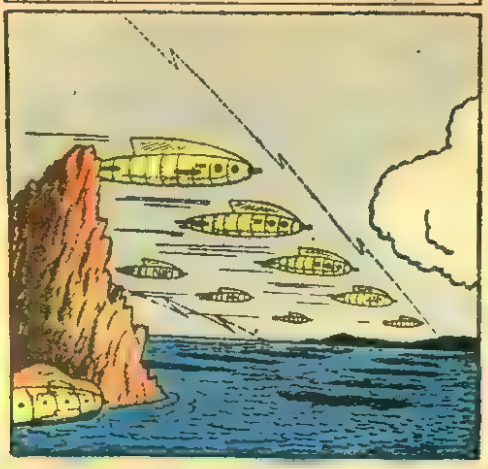
SOON HE SIGHTS SATURN AND ROARS DOWN TO A LANDING..

HE REPORTS TO HEADQUARTERS.

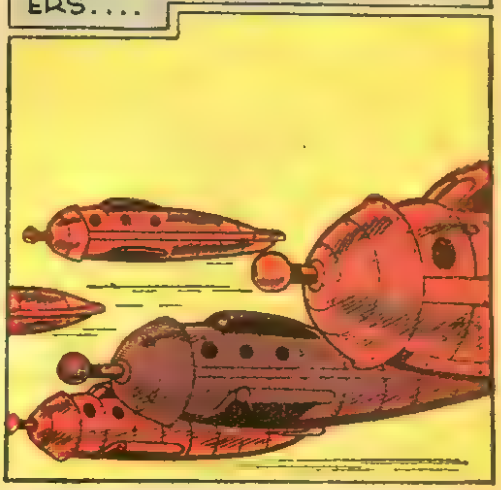
SQ-27 DIED ON THE WAY, BUT I OBTAINED THE PLANS AND SUGGEST THAT WE PREPARE TO MEET THE ENEMY AT ONCE, IN SPACE.



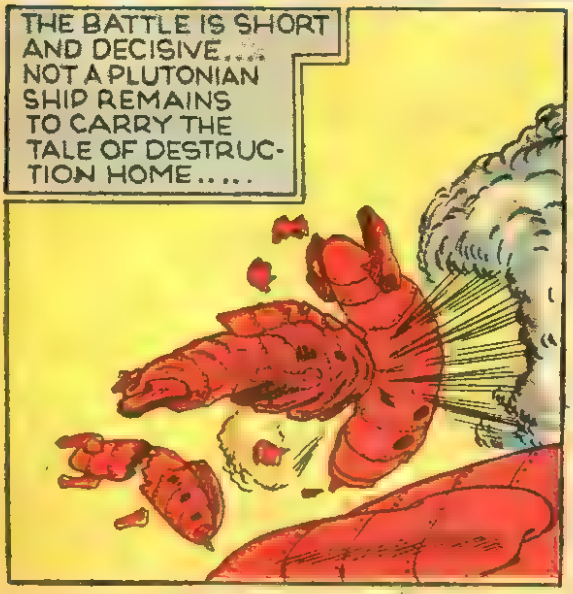
THE SATURNIAN FLEET ZOOMS FORTH AND SOON CLIMBS ABOVE THE STRATOSPHERE...



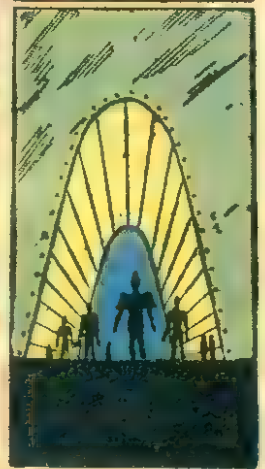
IN MID-SPACE THEY MEET THE ONRUSHING PLUTO-DESTROYERS....



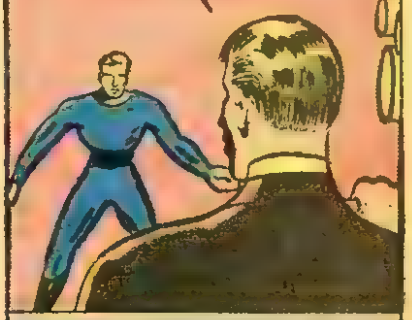
THE BATTLE IS SHORT AND DECISIVE.... NOT A PLUTONIAN SHIP REMAINS TO CARRY THE TALE OF DESTRUCTION HOME.....



BUZZ LEADS THE VICTORIOUS ARMY BACK TO SATURN...



CAPTAIN CRANDALL, SATURN'S ETERNAL GRATITUDE IS YOURS!. FOR YOUR EXCEEDINGLY BRAVE DEEDS!



Another Startling Adventure With BUZZ CRANDALL *In The Next Issue Of* PLANET COMICS

CRASH PARKER

THE SCENE OPENS IN AN ANCIENT DARKENED BUILDING ON A LONELY PLAIN ON EARTH.
IF WE HOPE TO OBTAIN THE RICH MAGNIUM ORE FROM URANUS...WE MUST ELIMINATE PARKER.
OUR INTERSPACE CONTROL MACHINE WILL DO THE WORK!
A GIANT HYPNOMATIC DYNAMO OCCUPIES HALF OF THE BUILDING.
WE WILL DIRECT THE RAYS TO THE STRONG GIANTS OF GRO ON URANUS!

GOOD! WE WILL CAUSE THE GIRL, BETTY, TO BE CAPTURED AND HELD AS A BAIT TO LURE PARKER INTO OUR TRAP... NO ONE IN THE UNIVERSE WILL SUSPECT OUR HAND IN OUR LITTLE SCHEME. THROW THE MAIN SWITCH!

WITHIN A FEW HOURS, THE URANIAN WHO HAS FALLEN UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE MACHINE'S WAVE LENGTH, HAS CAPTURED BETTY AND STRAPPED HER TO A STEEL TABLE.

CRASH IN DESPERATION RUNS TO CONSULT WIZO, AN ANCIENT SAGE OF THE PLANET.

PERHAPS YOU CAN HELP ME..WHERE COULD SHE HAVE GONE? I'VE SEARCHED ALL OF URANUS!

THERE HAVE BEEN CERTAIN RADIO DISTURBANCES..

..IN THE VICINITY OF GRO, I BELIEVE, ARE CERTAIN HYPNOTIC RAYS SENT FROM AN UNKNOWN SOURCE. I WOULD ADVISE YOU TO GO THERE AND INVESTIGATE!

CRASH ZOOMS OFF IN THE DIRECTION OF THE CITY OF GIANTS, GRO..

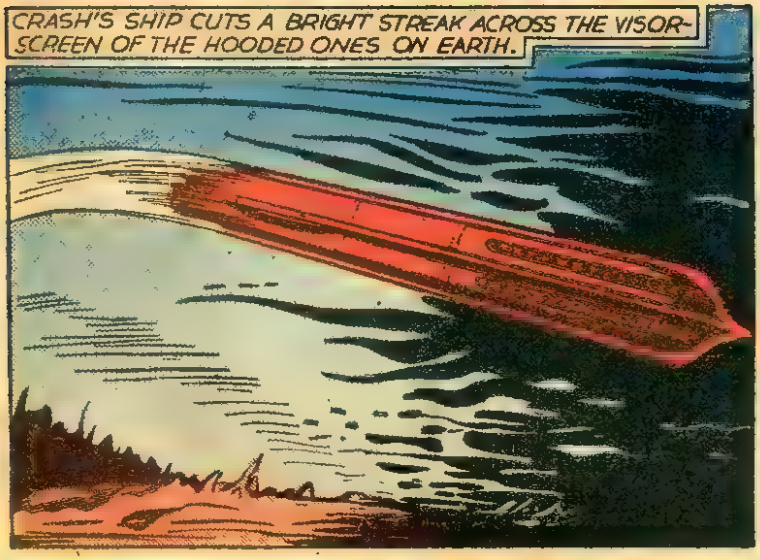
IF SHE'S FALLEN UNDER THE SPELL OF THOSE SPACE SVENGALIS...

..I'LL BUST HIS ELECTRIC EYE!

IF IT'S ONE OF THOSE BIG BULLIES OF GRO, ...I CAN HANDLE THEM ANY DAY!

HERE'S THE WEIRD TOWN NOW..I'LL LAND ON A ROOF!

WITHIN THIS FANTASTIC CITY BETTY LIES A HELPLESS CAPTIVE.

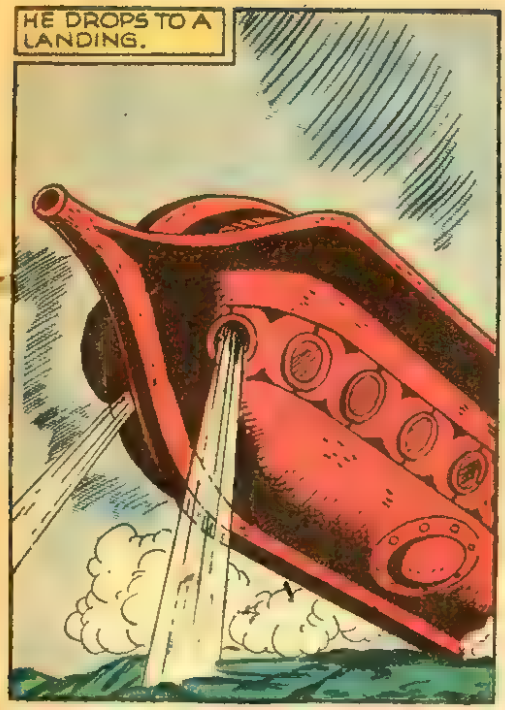

CRASH'S SHIP CUTS A BRIGHT STREAK ACROSS THE VISOR-SCREEN OF THE HOODED ONES ON EARTH.

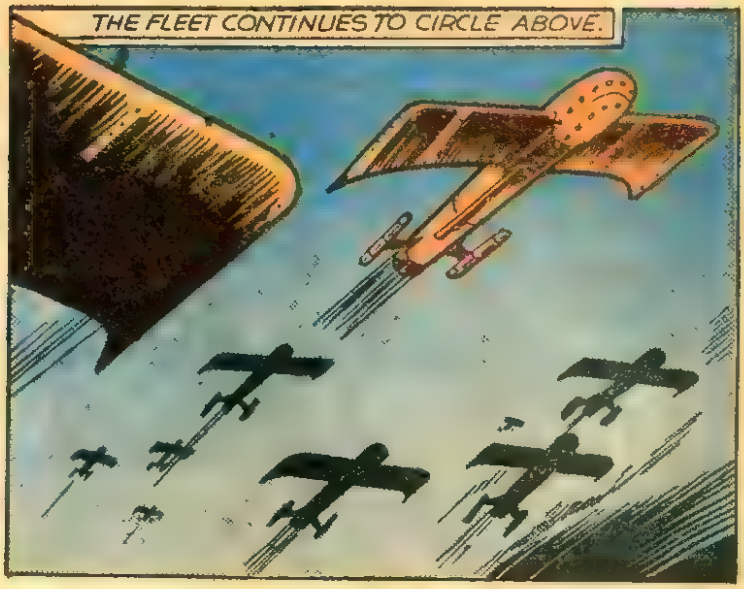
HE'S FALLING INTO THE TRAP ALL RIGHT, BUT WHAT'S THAT? A FLEET OF SHIPS BEHIND HIM!! I'LL HAVE TO SEND THE "HEADS" AFTER HIM!

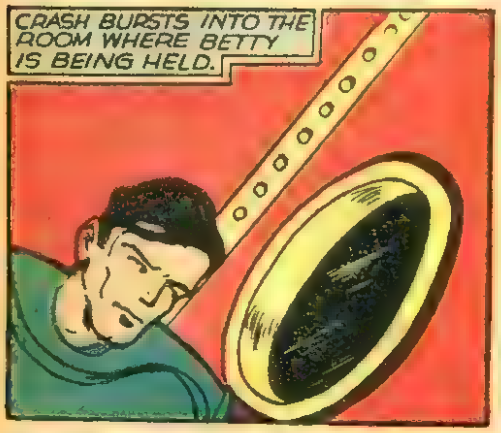
A FLEET OF FIGHTING SHIPS FOLLOWS CLOSE ON PARKER'S TRAIL.

IT IS WIZO'S DOING.
THERE IS A SINISTER POWER AT WORK ON OUR PLANET... I FEAR PARKER WILL NEED HELP!

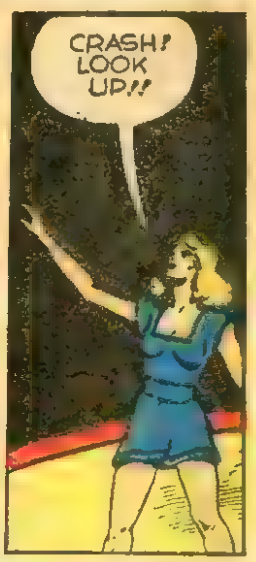
CRASH SEES HIS PROTECTIVE CONVOY.
GOOD OLD WIZO! BUT I DON'T NEED HELP!

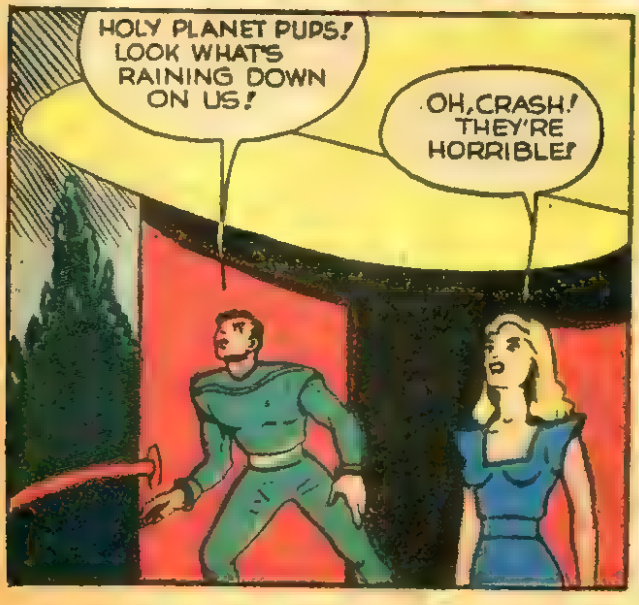

HE DROPS TO A LANDING.

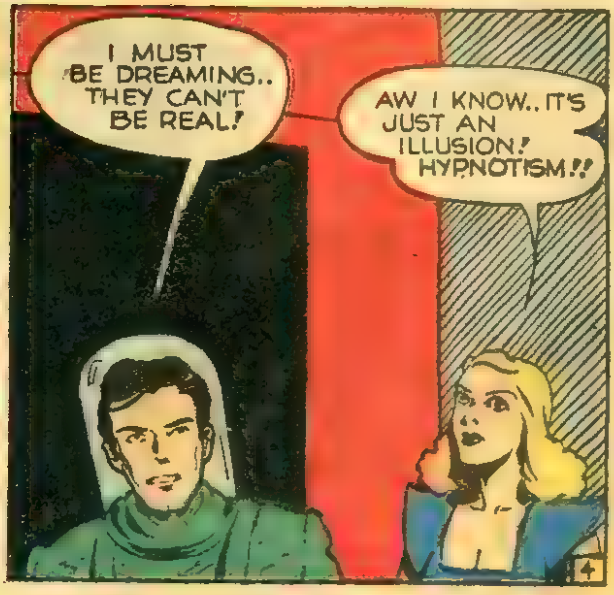

THE FLEET CONTINUES TO CIRCLE ABOVE.


CRASH BURSTS INTO THE ROOM WHERE BETTY IS BEING HELD.

BUT THE GIANT STANDS STOCK STILL AT THE MERCY....AND UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE HYPNOTIC MACHINE ON EARTH.


CRASH! LOOK UP!!


HOLY PLANET PUDS! LOOK WHAT'S RAINING DOWN ON US!
OH, CRASH! THEY'RE HORRIBLE!

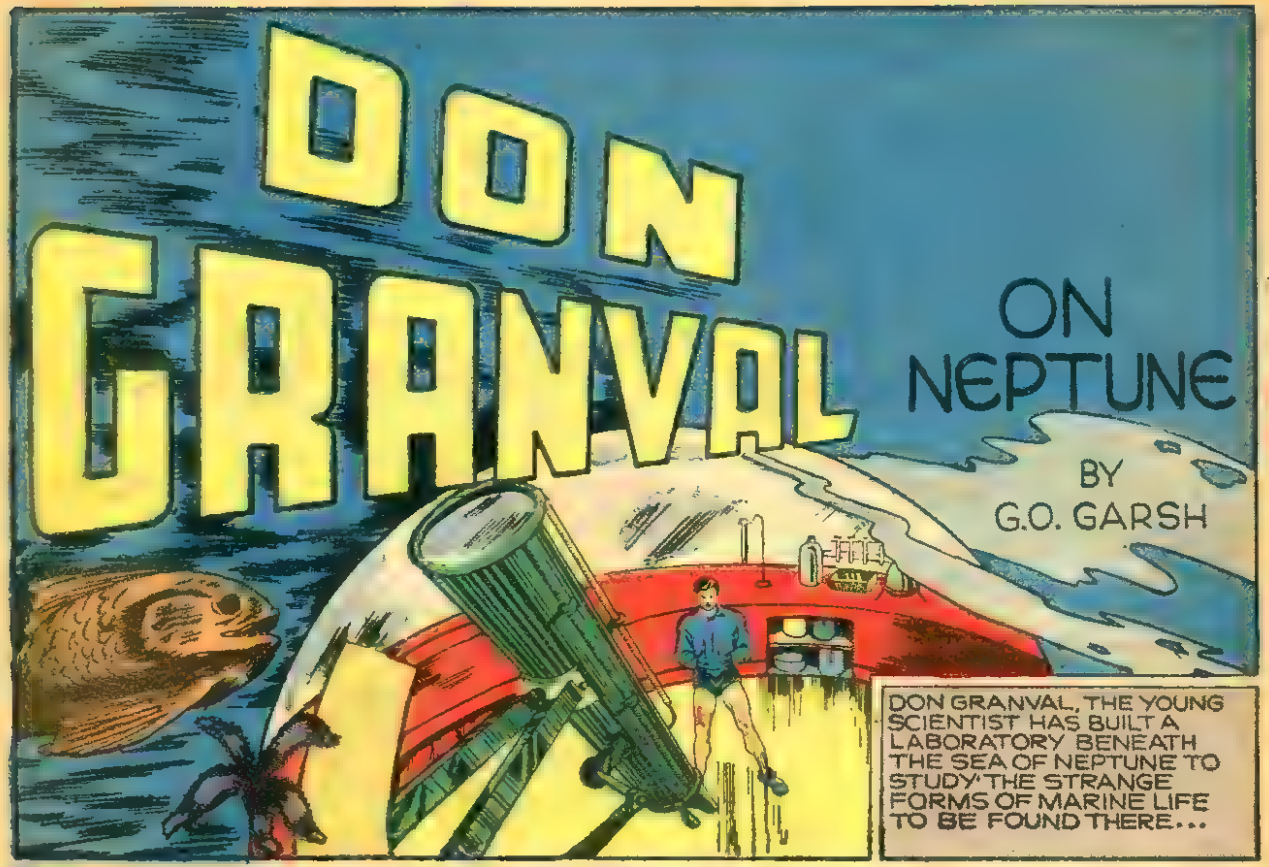

I MUST BE DREAMING.. THEY CAN'T BE REAL!
AW I KNOW.. IT'S JUST AN ILLUSION! HYPNOTISM!!
4

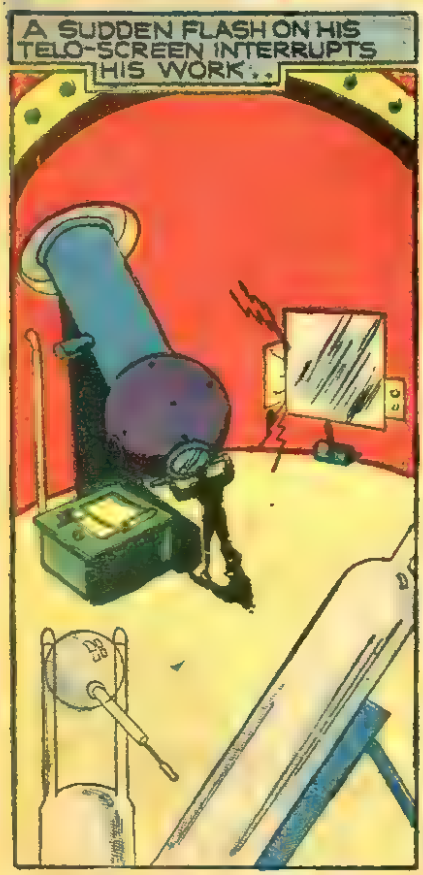
IT IS NO ILLUSION! THE "HEADS" ARE COMING TO PUT AN END TO BOTH OF YOU!
HIDEOUS BODILESS CREATURES DROP FROM THE SKY.
HELP!
ONE OF THEM SEIZES BETTY IN ITS TAIL.
THE WHOLE FLEET BEARS DOWN ON THE MONSTROUS CREATURES. . .
AT LAST, CRASH CATCHES UP WITH THEM, AND DEALING OUT WITH SAVAGE BLOWS, HE MANAGES TO FREE BETTY.

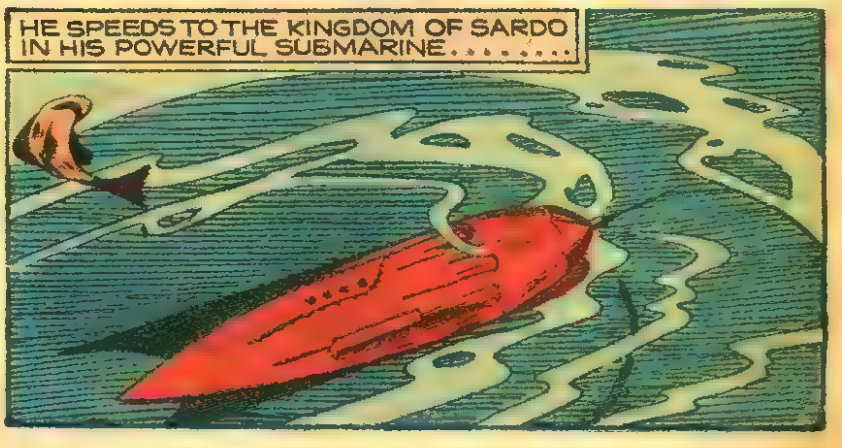
CRASH JOINS THE REST OF THE FLEET.
SEVERAL URANIANS BOARD HIS SHIP.
I'M HEADING BACK TO GRO!
THAT GIANT WAS UNDER SOME SORT OF SPELL..I'LL FIND OUT WHAT IT WAS!
CRASH BURSTS IN UPON THE GIANT WITH A TERRIFIC BLOW
HE IS SHOCKED OUT OF THE HYPNOTIC SPELL.
"TELL ME, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?
MY MASTER ON EARTH.. STOP! I'LL TELL!
WITH DIRECTIONS FURNISHED BY THE GIANT, CRASH SPEEDS TO EARTH AND DESTROYS THE EVIL TWO AND THEIR HYPNOMATIC DYNAMO WITH ONE POWERFUL BLAST.
WHAT A WRECK, CRASH! THEY'LL NEVER BOTHER US AGAIN!
THE UNIVERSE IS WELL RID OF SUCH FIENDS!
ANOTHER CRASH PARKER STORY NEXT ISSUE!

DON GRANVAL ON NEPTUNE

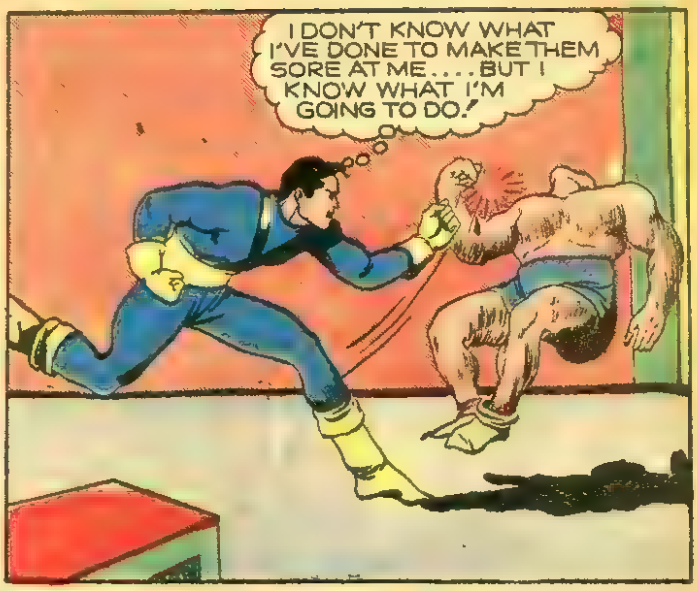
BY G.O. GARSH


DON GRANVAL, THE YOUNG SCIENTIST HAS BUILT A LABORATORY BENEATH THE SEA OF NEPTUNE TO STUDY THE STRANGE FORMS OF MARINE LIFE TO BE FOUND THERE...





BUT WHEN HE LANDS..
WELL, THESE NEPTUNIANS DON'T LOOK LIKE THEY WANT TO SEE ME!


I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'VE DONE TO MAKE THEM SORE AT ME.... BUT I KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO!

LISTEN.. THE KING HAS CALLED ME HERE...

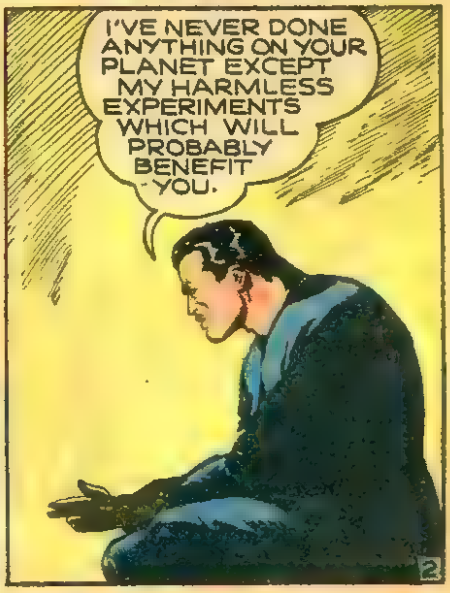
BUT HE'S ROUGHLY GRABBED..

AND THROWN INTO PRISON..

I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT.

KING SARDO HIMSELF VISITS DON'S CELL...
I'M SORRY I HAD TO DO THIS TO YOU, GRANVAL
SORRY?

WELL, WHY DID YOU HAVE ME PUT IN PRISON?

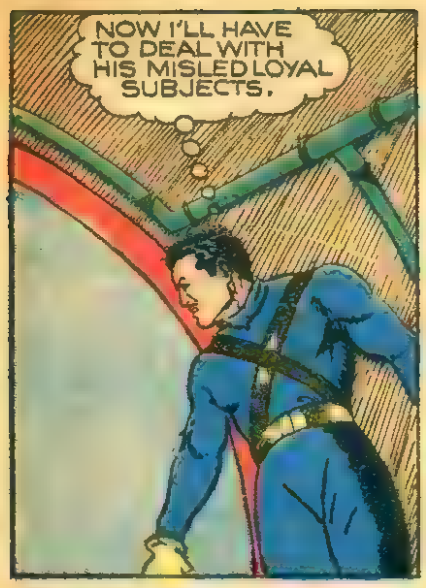

I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING ON YOUR PLANET EXCEPT MY HARMLESS EXPERIMENTS WHICH WILL PROBABLY BENEFIT YOU.

I KNOW THAT... BUT OUR PEOPLE HAVE BEEN POISONED BY THE WATER LATELY AND THEY BELIEVE YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR IT.
I HAD TO SATISFY THEM BY THROWING YOU IN PRISON... IT'S FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION, TOO, UNTIL WE DISCOVER THE REAL CAUSE OF THE POISON.
LET ME OUT OF HERE AND I'LL FIND OUT QUICKER THAN ANY OF YOUR MEN!
WELL, ALL RIGHT... I'LL LEAVE THE DOOR OPEN... BUT WAIT UNTIL I GET AWAY FROM HERE.
LATE THAT NIGHT..
HEY, GUARD, COME 'ERE, I'VE GOT SOMETHING FOR YOU.
OOOF!
NOW TO GET BACK TO MY SUB.
HE SPEEDS OFF
I'LL HAVE TO TEST THE WATER
HE HURRIES BACK TO HIS UNDER-SEA LAB....
3

SOON HE HAS GATHERED SAMPLES OF WATER FROM EVERY PART OF THE VAST SEA...
H-MM..THE COURSE OF THE POISON FLOWS NORTH...THE SOUTHERN WATERS ARE CLEAR.
NORTWARD SWEEPS THE SUBMARINE....
HE BEACHES ON A FRIGID ROCKY SHORE.
A CAVE... THAT'S ALWAYS THE FIRST PLACE TO INVESTIGATE.
HE FOLLOWS DOWN LONG WINDING PASSAGEWAYS..
AND COMES UPON A MAMMOTH LABORATORY..
THIS IS WHERE THEY TEST THE POISON.
HUGE VATS CONTAIN GALLONS OF DEADLY LIQUID..
4

THEY'VE ENOUGH STUFF HERE TO MURDER THE UNIVERSE!
BUT THEY'RE ALL EARTHMEN HERE! THAT'S STRANGE, I THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY EARTH INHABITANT OF NEPTUNE.
BOLDLY, HE APPROACHES ONE OF THE WORKERS...
WHERE'S THE BOSS?
HE'S IN THE INNER CHAMBER DOWN THERE, BUT YOU CAN'T SEE HIM NOW!
DON BURSTS INTO AN INNER CHAMBER..
WHAT..? WHO ARE YOU?
THAT'S NOT WHAT COUNTS..IT'S, WHO ARE YOU? GREAT SCOTT, YOU'RE VILLO, THE DEPOSED DICTATOR OF EUROPE ON EARTH!
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH IT HERE, VILLO... YOU'VE GOT TO STOP POISONING THE NEPTUNIANS.
YOU FOOL!
DO YOU THINK I'D LET ONE MAN OPPOSE ME?
YOUR GUN IS USELESS, I HAPPEN TO BE A SCIENTIST AND INVENTOR. RAY PROOF CLOTH IS ONLY ONE OF MY SMART INVENTIONS!
NOW YOU'RE GOING TO DO AS I SAY!
5

YOU'RE GOING TO MARCH INTO THAT POISON FACTORY AHEAD OF ME AND GIVE AN ORDER!
THE ORDER WILL BE TO STOP MAKING THE STUFF, TO SHUT OFF THE PUMPS AND DRAIN THE VATS...AND SAY IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT!
YOU WIN.. I'LL DO IT... THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR ME TO DO!
VILLO FACES HIS SUBJECTS...
YOU MEN THAT I HAVE BROUGHT FROM EARTH TO CARRY OUT MY WISHES...WILL OBEY ME IN ANYTHING I SAY?
YES, MASTER!
YES! YES!
THEN I HAVE A NEW ORDER.. ACT QUICKLY.... SEIZE THIS MAN BEHIND ME!
OH, HO! THE FAMILIAR DOUBLE CROSS.. I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN!
VILLO TUMBLES OVER THE RAILING..
AND SPLASHES INTO THE POISONOUS VAT BELOW...
UGH? AN UGLY DEATH:. BUT IT HAD TO BE DONE.
16

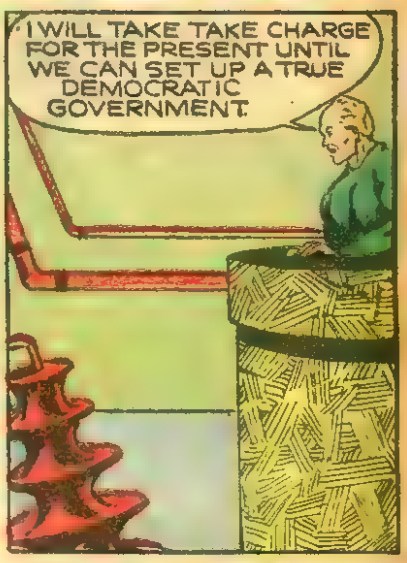

NOW I'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH HIS MISLED LOYAL SUBJECTS.

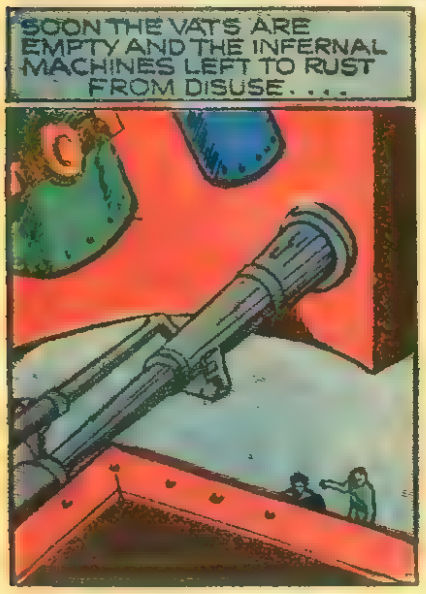
DON GETS BEHIND A GUN, BUT DOESN'T FIRE....
KEEP YOUR DISTANCE AND LISTEN TO ME... YOU CAN ESTABLISH A PEACEFUL COLONY HERE IF YOU COOPERATE WITH THE NEPTUNIANS.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO USE TREACHERY OR FORCE.. VILLO WAS A POWER-MAD MANIAC! YOU ARE HONEST MEN.. BELIEVE WHAT I SAY.

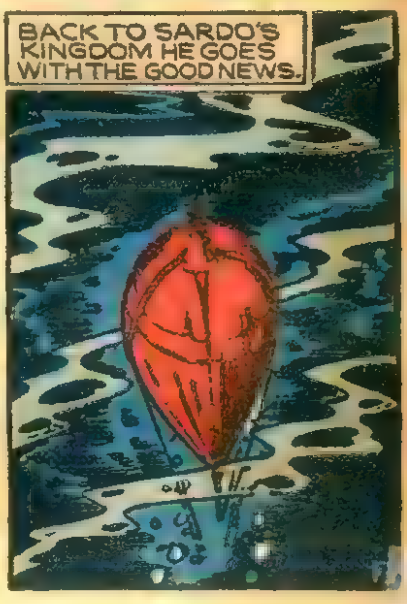
STOP THIS HORRIBLE POISONING.. KING SARDO WILL BE GLAD TO HELP YOU IF YOU SIGN A TREATY WITH HIM.

YOU'RE RIGHT.. WE NEVER WANTED TO DO IT THE OTHER WAY, BUT VILLO MADE US THINK WE HAD TO.


I WILL TAKE TAKE CHARGE FOR THE PRESENT UNTIL WE CAN SET UP A TRUE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT.

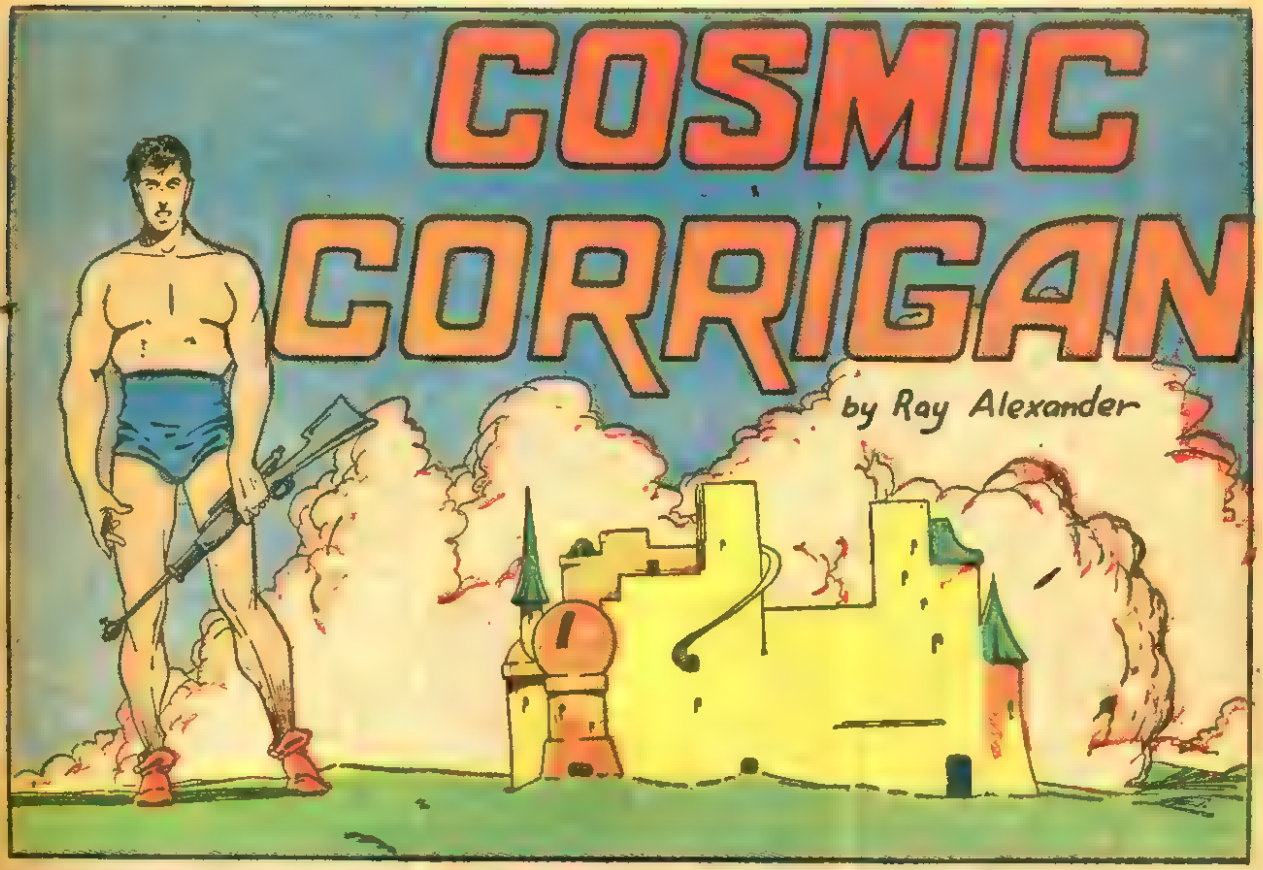

SOON THE VATS ARE EMPTY AND THE INFERNAL MACHINES LEFT TO RUST FROM DISUSE....

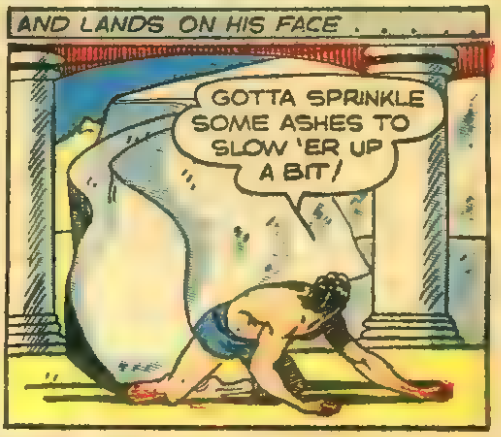
NOW, I'VE REALLY GOT SOMETHING TO TELL THE NEPTUNIANS.... THEY'LL HAVE TO COME UP AND MEET THEIR "GOOD NEIGHBORS"

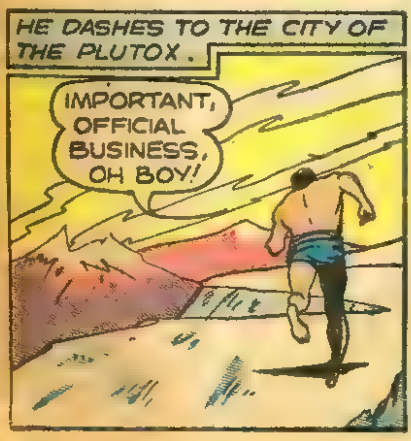

BACK TO SARDO'S KINGDOM HE GOES WITH THE GOOD NEWS.

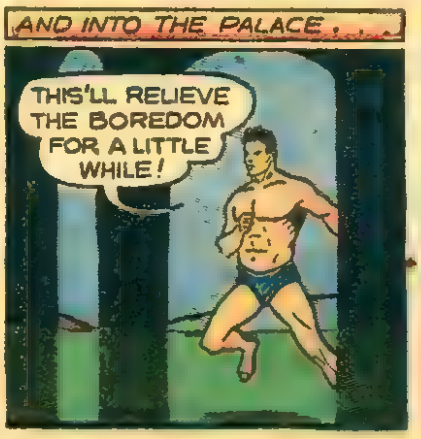
COSMIC CORRIGAN

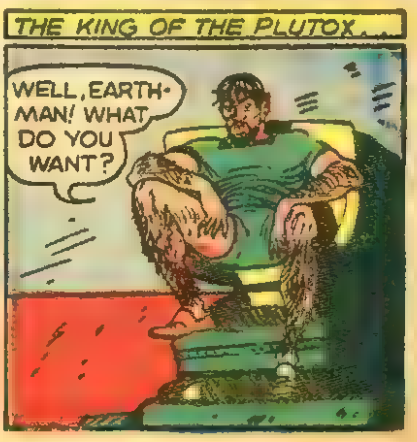
by Ray Alexander

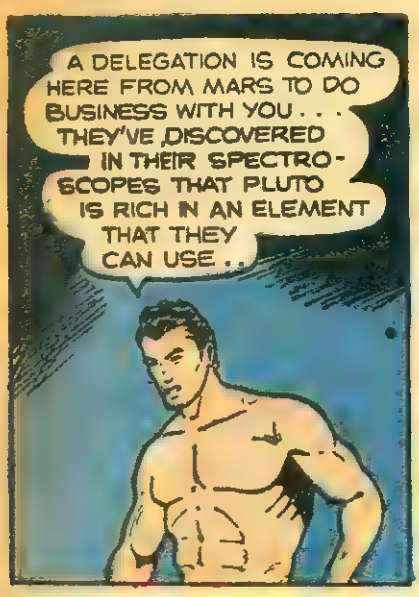


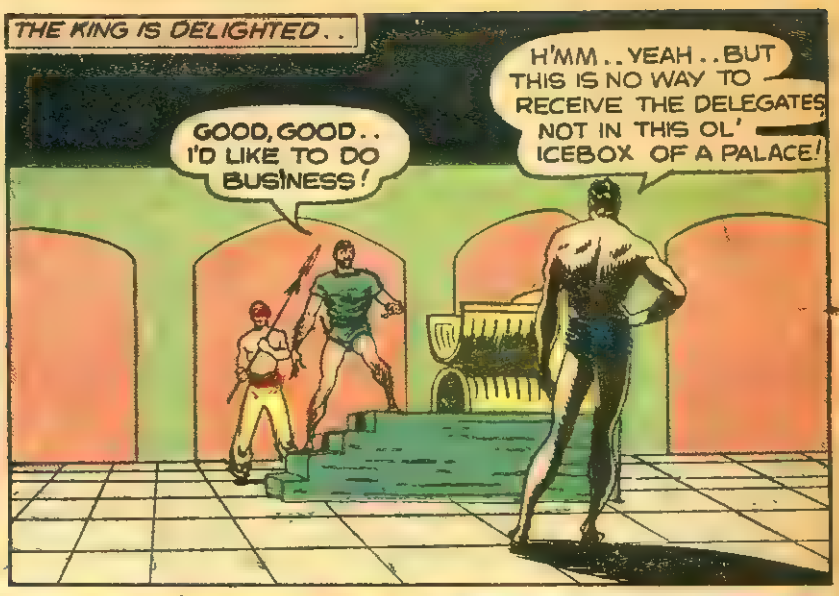








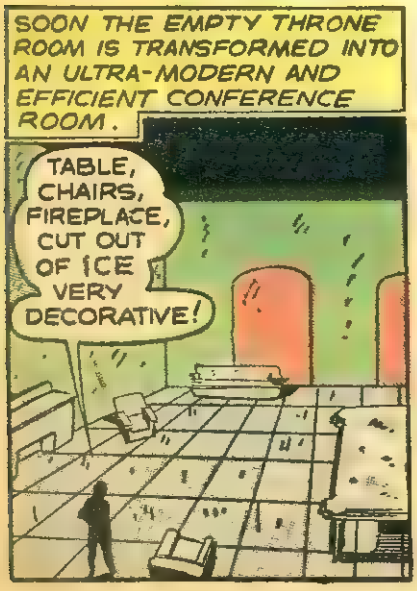

A DELEGATION IS COMING HERE FROM MARS TO DO BUSINESS WITH YOU . . . THEY'VE DISCOVERED IN THEIR SPECTROSCOPES THAT PLUTO IS RICH IN AN ELEMENT THAT THEY CAN USE . .


THE KING IS DELIGHTED . .
GOOD, GOOD . . I'D LIKE TO DO BUSINESS!
H'MM . . YEAH . . BUT THIS IS NO WAY TO RECEIVE THE DELEGATES NOT IN THIS OL' ICEBOX OF A PALACE!

HUH?
YOU GOTTA PUT ON A SHOW . . . IMPRESS 'EM, YOU KNOW . . . LET'S SEE . . I'LL NEED SOME HELP!

HO! GUARDS . . . HELP THE EARTHMAN, CORRIGAN!

LET'S SEE . . A CONFERENCE TABLE . . A COUPLE OF EASY CHAIRS, A FIREPLACE!


SOON THE EMPTY THRONE ROOM IS TRANSFORMED INTO AN ULTRA-MODERN AND EFFICIENT CONFERENCE ROOM.
TABLE, CHAIRS, FIREPLACE, CUT OUT OF ICE VERY DECORATIVE!

I'LL SCRATCH SOME PICTURES ON THE WALL . . BUSINESS MEN ARE SPONSORING ART THESE DAYS . . THEY'LL LIKE IT!

OH, THAT'S BEAUTIFUL! WHEN WILL THEY GET HERE?

SOON..SOON..HMM.. NOW LET ME LOOK AT YOU...LET'S SEE... OH, I KNOW WHAT YOU NEED TO COMPLETE THE PICTURE!

CORRIGAN SHOVES A CIGAR IN THE KING'S MOUTH...

LATER..

THE MARTIAN DELEGATES HAVE ARRIVED, SIR!

SHOW THEM IN!

THE MARTIAN BUSINESS MEN ENTER INTO THE HALL..

HM..VERY GOOD TASTE.. VERY NICE LAYOUT!

WE WILL TRADE 1,780,000 TONS OF FUEL FOR THE SAME AMOUNT OF NOLIUM..IS THAT AGREEABLE?

WELL..HARUMPH, I'LL HAVE TO GIVE THE MATTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION!

A GOOD PRICE, WHO COULD DO BETTER?

WE MADE A REASONABLE OFFER!

YES, BUT.

COSMO'S BORED BY THE TEDIOUS PROCEEDINGS..

THIS'LL GO ON FOR HOURS..THEY JUST LIKE TO HEAR THEMSELVES TALK!

LOOK! YOU WAKE ME UP WHEN THEY'RE THROUGH..I'M GOING TO CATCH UP ON MY SLEEP!

YES, SIR!

MEANWHILE, ANOTHER SHIP NEARS PLUTO.

IT'S A MERCURIAN SPACE CRUISER

IT CIRCLES DOWN ABOUT THE PALACE AND LANDS . .

A LITTLE, SHARP-NOSED MERCURIAN RUSHES INTO THE CONFERENCE ROOM.

STOP! DON'T SIGN ANYTHING, KING!

I'D LIKE A WORD WITH YOU IN PRIVATE!

BZZZ BZZZZ

THE KING TURNS TO THE MARTIANS

SORRY, GENTLEMEN, BUT I MUST REFUSE YOUR OFFER. . . MERCURY HAS GIVEN ME A MUCH BETTER BARGAIN!

HEH! HEH! IF HE THINKS I'M GOING TO PAY, HE'S CRAZY! MY FLEET WILL BE HERE SOON!

SO, GOODBYE, GENTLEMEN, YOU CAN ALL GO NOW!

SUDDENLY A FLEET OF MERCURIAN SHIPS SWARM DOWN OUT OF SPACE. .

ARMED MEN APPROACH THE ICE CITY. . . . . .

THE CITY OF THE PLUTOX IS NOT WELL GUARDED. . THE MERCURIANS EASILY ENTER IT.

KING OF THE PLUTOX, DO YOU SURRENDER TO MERCURY?

SURRENDER! OH, HELP! I'VE BEEN DECEIVED! HELP! HELP!

WAKE UP, COSMO CORRIGAN, THE MERCURIANS HAVE INVADED US!

WHAT? WHILE I TOOK A NAP?

HE RUSHES OUT TO THE MERCURIAN SHIPS AND DRAINS THEM OF FUEL. .

A MERCURIAN TRIES TO INTERFERE

THIS'LL TEACH YOU BIRDS TO KEEP YOUR RACKETEERING TRICKS OFF PLUTO!

SOCK

THE KING HAS BEEN PUT UNDER GUARD.

OH..WHERE'S THE EARTHMAN? WHY DOESN'T HE SAVE ME?

COSMO DASHES IN.

HERE I COME, KING! DON'T LET 'EM SCARE YOU!

GET THAT MAN! JUST LIKE AN EARTHMAN.. ALWAYS MEDDLING!

THE MERCURIANS RUSH TOWARD COSMO . . .

DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!

BUT HE REACHES A HUGE FREEZE MACHINE ...THROWS THE SWITCH.

THE MERCURIANS ARE LITERALLY "FROZEN" IN THEIR TRACKS . . .

THERE YOU ARE! THEY'LL KEEP FRESH FOREVER!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU! NOW I CAN ACCEPT THE MARTIAN OFFER OF 1,780,000 TONS. I MEANT TO ALL ALONG!

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